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Watchdog eyes hospitals

Superbug deaths show more oversight powers needed: Ombudsman

260 deaths since 2006

» C. difficile, a bacterium that attacks the intestines causing severe diarrhea, has cost the lives of at least 260 patients in 7 hospitals since 2006.

Ontario's ombudsman says the superbug C. difficile, which has cost the lives of hundreds of people, would have been investigated by now if the government wasn't too frightened of embarrassment to let him do it.

André Marin says he's "uncovered a treasure trove of government maladministration" and that it's time the province let him look at hospitals.

Right now, hospitals are beyond Marin's investigative powers and he used the release of his annual report yesterday to demand change.

"With the annual health-care budget eating up a whopping $40 billion, or 40 per cent of the government's total spending, it's unthinkable that this sector isn't subject to the same kind of oversight as the rest of government," Marin said.

"What is the hesitancy? One is fundamentally that they're trying to contain perhaps an embarrassing situation," Marin said.

"It's not in the government's plans to move forward on," Health Minister George Smitherman said when asked about extending Marin's powers to cover hospitals.

Ontario may be the only province that does not give its ombudsman power to investigate hospitals and long-term care facilities but the province has other measures including community governance of hospitals, a provincial auditor general and a 1-800 line for concerns about long-term care facilities, Smitherman said. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

» business p.14

flying low

Air Canada to cut 2,000 jobs

» entertainment p.38-41

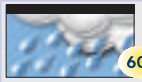
Hopefuls face off on show

» automotive inside

Accent on best value

» travel inside

Beijing comes calling



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WEATHER P. 45

LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Azzurri mania

Anthony Beneziano celebrates Italy's 2-0 victory over France on College Street yesterday afternoon. Italy advanced to the second round of Euro 2008 with the win. Story, page 18.

Through with drive-thru emissions

Dave de Sylva has nothing against coffee and burger restaurants: "I sign all kinds of real estate deals at Tim Hortons," says the Markham developer. It's the drive-thru service he can't stand.

De Sylva dislikes drive-thru queues so much he decided to calculate the gas burned and tonnes of carbon dioxide spewed at Markham's drive-thru establishments.

de Sylva

By his calculation, the cars lined up at Markham's 29 drive-thru establishments uselessly burn 485,185 litres of gasoline a year. That's enough to let an average car circle the globe 85 times. As for greenhouse gas emissions, de Sylva calculates the damage at 118 tonnes of carbon dioxide and other pollutants.

Nick Javor, a spokesperson for Tim Hortons, says de Sylva's analysis is flawed.

Tim Hortons' own study concluded there is "no air quality benefit to the public from eliminating drive-thrus." TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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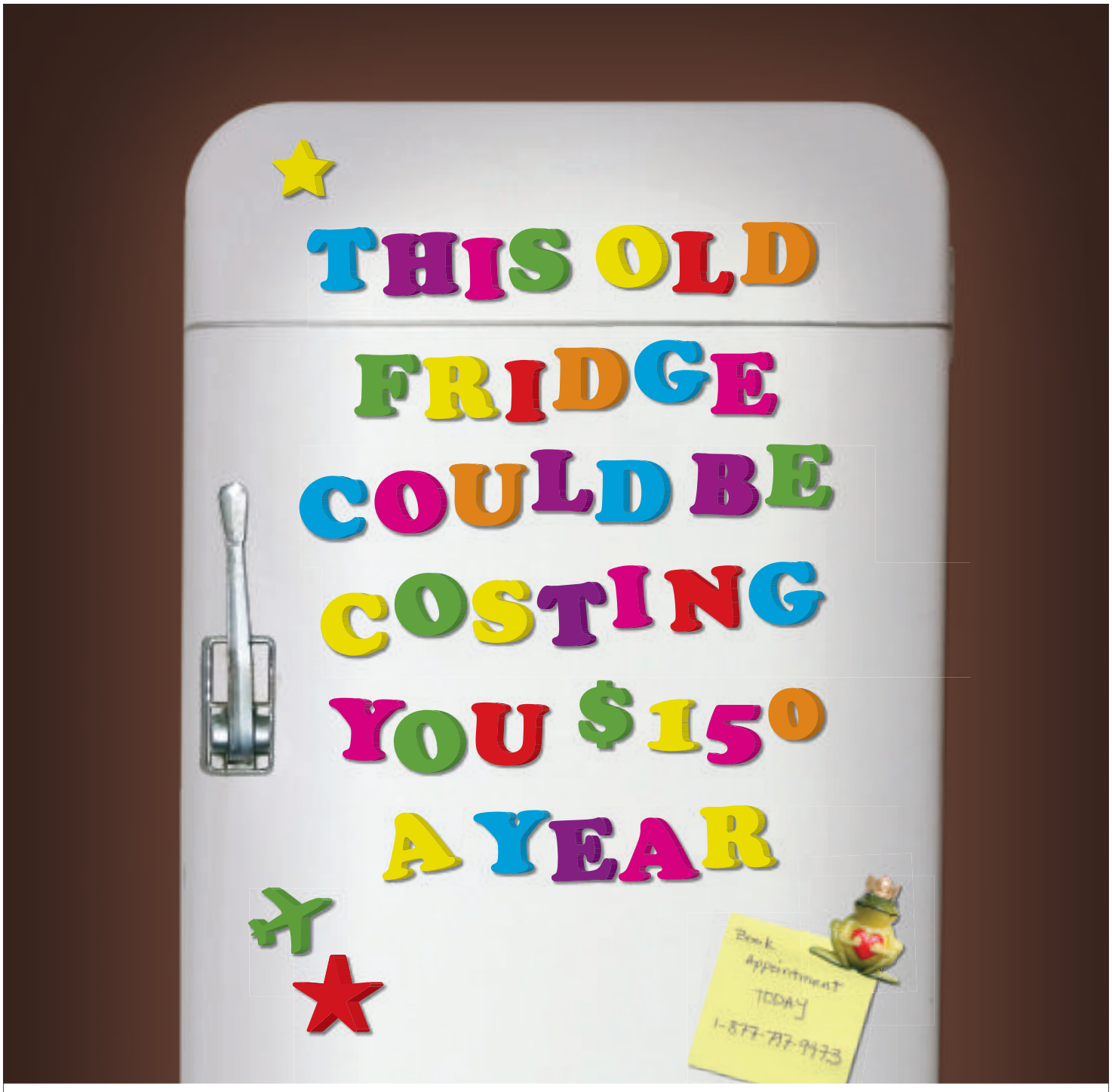

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toronto

Toronto will not meet its target of starting green bin collection in large apartment buildings on July 1. It may be July 2009 before organic waste collection starts in multi-unit buildings, says Coun. Glenn De Baeremaeker. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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wait is over
Eligible since 1999, Glenn Anderson to enter Hockey Hall of Fame. » 15

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looking back
Study reveals high school personas have a bearing on your career. » 36

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Get Smart movie features many spy devices. » 42

celebritybuzz

stuck in neutral
Former model Bruce Hulse dishes about losing his sex drive with Elle MacPherson. » 47

in tomorrow's metro

food
Metro food writer Barb Holland serves up a delicious recipe using rhubarb.

Board targets dropouts

Strategy aims to drastically cut rate

lagging behind
» The report is one of the ways the board is responding to new data showing children from poor or turbulent backgrounds or marginalized communities often lag behind.

Canada's largest school board is poised to set tough targets to cut the dropout rate by 5 per cent in each of the next five years — and chop the alarming 40 per cent rate among black students to 15 per cent.

Through mentors, teacher training and close tracking of the most needy students, the Toronto District School Board's sweeping new Urban Diversity Strategy — to be voted on tomorrow by a board committee and by all trustees next week — would aim to make all intermediate and high schools across the city more sensitive to the demographic roadblocks often facing students of differing backgrounds.

The action plan would also target the 25 most racially diverse, low-performing schools for extra youth workers, outreach staff to work with parents, summer programs for Grade 8 students who fail any of the 3 Rs, and a network of teachers who feel passionate about working in such challenging schools.

"We know this is not going to be an easy task, but with the data we now know about our students, and with what we see is working already at some schools — plus a little bit of pressure — we know it can be done," said Gerry Connelly, the board's director of education, in an interview yesterday.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Cyclists have same road rules

Sgt. Jeff Zammit knows how dangerous biking on Toronto streets can be — it's literally his day job.

The 22-year police veteran is in charge of the 40-officer community response unit on bicycle patrols in west end 14 Division.

Many seem to think the road rules for cyclists are different than for cars "when in fact they're not," he says, adding he often sees people pedalling through red lights and along sidewalks — practices that infuriate others.

The ongoing struggle between cycles and sedans on Toronto's crowded streets has been a topic during June bike month.

On Monday, Toronto police began a weeklong campaign to corral motorists and cyclists endangering others. The blitz is focusing on drivers who make unsafe turns, open car doors without looking or steer into bike lanes. Unruly cyclists are also being held to account. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Air Canada **Travel woes**

RICK MADONIK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Two women from Norway try to find a flight to Cuba yesterday at Pearson International Airport. Travelling may become more difficult once layoffs at Air Canada take effect. Story, page 14.

»news In Brief

» **SENTENCE** A pimp who turned a straight-A high school student into a high-priced call girl has been sentenced to eight years in prison. Josh Mfizi, 27, stared at the young woman whom he befriended and exploited as he was led away in handcuffs yesterday.

» **INVASION** A woman, 20, underwent surgery yesterday to reattach two of her fingers after a violent invasion of a home in the Murray Drive and Richardson Drive area of Aurora Monday night. Two male suspects, one of them armed with a large knife, got in a fight with a 26-year-old man who lived in the house.

» **CONDITION** Yahya Syed, a four-year-old boy dragged 35 metres by a hit-and-run driver, remains in serious condition at the Hospital For Sick Children.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Food now OK in T.O. libraries

No need to hide that coffee or sandwich when you head into a Toronto library because food and drink are now permitted in most areas.

This new policy was approved last year and adopted with little fanfare. Unless it's specifically banned, such as near special or rare collections, eating and drinking is allowed throughout the 99 branches of the Toronto public library system.

"We just want to loosen things up a bit. We want to provide a welcoming environment," said Anne Bailey, director of branch libraries. "In a lot of locations, people were sneaking their food and drink in."

Times have changed, and people want to be able to eat or drink something, especially teens who might spend the day at the library studying. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

court

Charge against father upgraded

CRIME The charge against a Mississauga father accused in the slaying last year of his 16-year-old daughter has been upgraded to first-degree murder.

Aqsa Parvez died Dec. 10 in what Peel police now say was a planned slaying allegedly committed by her father Muhammad, 57, in their Mississauga home. Nearly six months after his arrest, police yesterday formally upgraded the charge to first-degree murder. He had initially been charged with second-degree murder. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

School fights raise concern

Principals not willing to report all altercations

Ontario's public school principals don't want to be forced to report altercations between students, saying it would be "time consuming, inappropriate and costly."

"While reports to the police should be made" in cases of physical assault where a student requires medical attention, among other situations, "…involving the police in school life is a decision best left to educators who know students the best," says yesterday's letter to the education minister from Lisa Vincent, president of the Ontario Principals' Council.

MPP Frank Klees (Newmarket-Aurora) says the province has been pressing the provincial government to close the loophole in the Child and Family Services Act, which mandates reporting of adult-on-student crime or suspicion of it, but not student-on-student.

looking into issue

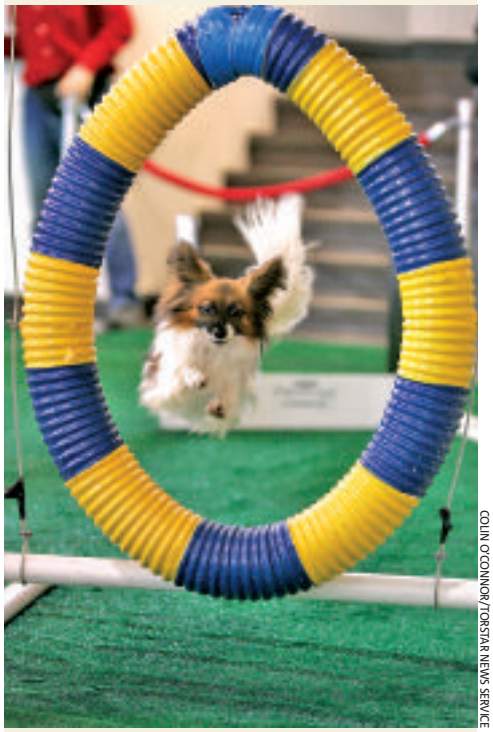
» **Education Minister Kathleen Wynne has said the Safe Schools Action Team is looking into an Ontario-wide policy and protocol for reporting, and any gaps that exist in various pieces of legislation.**

The move comes after a Grade 1 boy in a York Region Catholic school was allegedly whipped by two Grade 8 boys in a school washroom.

The school's principal did not report the incident to police. The parents called police after finding out about the incident , and two youths have since been charged.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pets **Dog day afternoon**



COLIN O'CONNOR/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Batman, a papillon, makes his way through an agility course at a media showing of the PawsWay Pet Discovery Centre on Queen's Quay West yesterday. The centre, which opens to the public Saturday, is a place where pet owners can learn about nutrition, training and sports for their canine friends.

Mississauga plans ahead

Mississauga is set to become the first municipality in Ontario to table multi-year budgets, planning ahead at least three years. And the preliminary picture budget officials painted this week is grim.

While it's still early, the city's director of finance, Roberto Rossini, says the GTA's second largest city — and usually the first to set its tax rate each year — faces a potential 9.7 per cent hike next year, 9.9 per cent in 2010 and 9.5 per cent in 2011, according to staff proposals.

The forecast comes at a time when Mayor Hazel McCallion, who for years has flaunted her city's debt-free status, has said she's ready to borrow early rather than raise taxes.

And Coun. Carolyn Parrish says the city may have no choice but to make deep staff cuts or sell off public assets to tackle the crisis.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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canada

A new Angus Reid Strategies survey reveals 88 per cent of respondents say they would strongly or moderately support a ban on the use of hand-held cellphones behind the wheel of a car. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Grits going green

Stéphane Dion to unveil carbon tax plan tomorrow

Greens get the jump

» The Green party, meanwhile, will leap out ahead of the Liberal announcement today with a detailed accounting of its carbon-tax proposal. With its more sweeping taxes and savings, the Green plan may help pave the way to making the Liberal plan look more modest and practical.

Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion is betting heavily — with his political career as the possible stakes — that Canadians are open to his $14-billion "green shift" in taxes, to be formally unveiled tomorrow.

Dion and his party are putting the final touches today on a politically risky proposition of the so-called carbon tax, which reportedly would see Canadians paying billions more in taxes for environmentally unfriendly carbon, but paying billions less in income and personal taxes.

"Shift happens" is said to be one of the slogans ready to be rolled out in the Liberal PR campaign on carbon tax. "Shift happens" could also describe the result at the top levels of the Liberal party if Dion fails in the sales job he plans for this summer on carbon tax.

Dion's plan is being unveiled amid a barrage of criticism and ridicule from Conservatives, spiralling prices at gas pumps and indications of significant uneasiness from within the restive Liberal caucus. Dion is gambling that Canadians' concerns about climate change will overcome all those negatives. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Report calls for seniors' home standards

The Ontario government is resisting long-awaited minimum standards of care for nursing home residents despite a new report that highlights the need for guidelines focusing on the daily attention that elderly residents receive.

Released yesterday, the report by Ontario health-care expert Shirlee Sharkey recommends guidelines that, in the next four years, could provide the province's 75,000 nursing home residents with up to four hours of care each day, depending on their needs.

Nursing home activists, unions and associations have long called for a provincial standard for daily hours of care — plus hundreds of millions of dollars in government funding to hire new staff — as a way to fix a nursing home system often stretched to capacity, where residents are routinely rushed through meals, left alone for hours or forced to sit in soiled diapers. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Trader Let's make a deal

PAUL CHIASSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Two years ago, Kyle MacDonald managed to barter a red paper clip into a two-storey home in Saskatchewan. Now, the master trader is itching to move on, although he admits he has no idea what he can fetch for the fully furnished home on Main Street in Kipling, Sask.

»news In Brief

» **MANDATE** A published report says Julie Couillard's mother received a three-year mandate from the federal government to arbitrate employment-insurance disputes. Montreal La Presse says Diane Bellemare was handed the term on Aug. 1, 2007. THE CANADIAN PRESS

court

Guy Lafleur's son pleads guilty

CHARGES The son of hockey legend Guy Lafleur has pleaded guilty to 14 criminal charges in a Montreal court.

Mark Lafleur pleaded guilty yesterday to accusations including assault, uttering threats to a minor and forcible confinement. Lafleur, 23, pleaded not guilty to two charges of sexual assault. THE CANADIAN PRESS

income

Judges say pay raise is too small

RATE Small Claims Court judges say a recent pay raise that more than doubled their incomes is still too small and could spark an exodus from "the people's court" bench — just as Ontario government considers directing more cases there to reduce the cost of litigation.

After going without a raise for 26 years, the deputy judges late last month saw their daily rate jump to $513 from $232. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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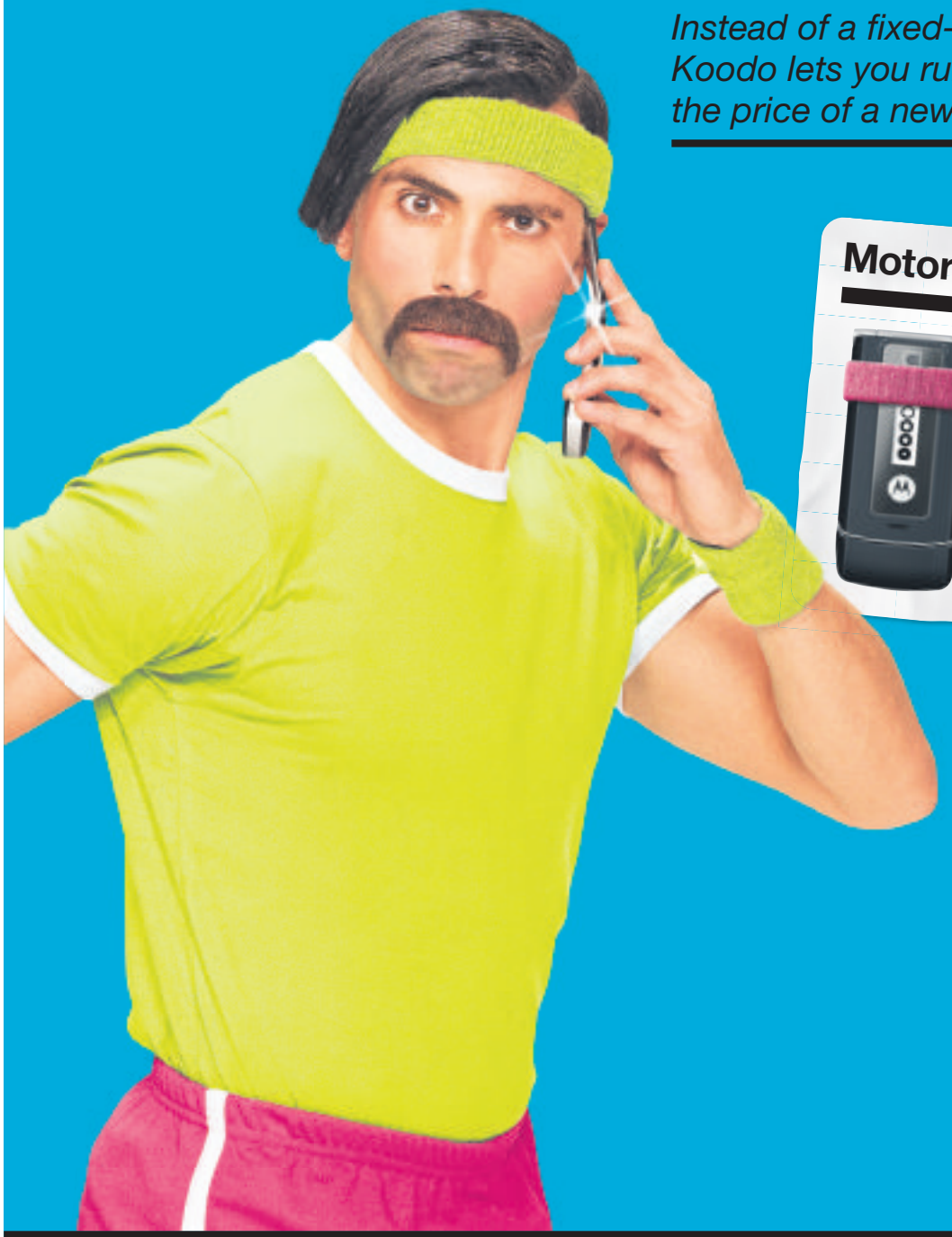

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Feds target work violence

Employers must develop policies and programs

'crystal clear'

» Labour Minister Jean-Pierre Blackburn says the message is "crystal clear:" Workplace violence will not be tolerated.

The federal government has adopted new legislation that aims to prevent violence in federally regulated workplaces.

The legislation covers all forms of violence, including psychological harassment.

It requires employers to develop policies and programs dealing with such issues as bullying, teasing and other harmful behaviour.

The regulations also require employers to assess their programs' effectiveness every three years and update them as necessary.

The Canadian Labour Congress has endorsed the violence-prevention measures, saying they are "the best and most comprehensive" in Canada.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

N.S. brush fire stabilizes

Firefighters were working yesterday on the remaining hot spots from a brush fire that forced 5,000 residents to flee their homes in a rural, wooded area east of Halifax.

Jennifer Glavin, a spokeswoman for the Department of Natural Resources, said the fire was considered stable, but 50 firefighters remained on the ground.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Drunk driving **Interlock**

BEN LEMPHERS/FOR METRO TORONTO

Jay Fetherston, with Guardian Interlock Services, demonstrates how to use an alcohol interlock device in Edmonton yesterday. The ignition interlock devices will be mandatory for chronic drunk drivers in Alberta beginning July 1.

Four men busted in major cocaine ring

RCMP allege 60 tons smuggled in last decade

drug pipeline

» Police believe the drugs were made in Colombia and then transported to Mexico before being smuggled into the United States.

The RCMP says it has arrested four men who allegedly smuggled massive amounts of cocaine into Canada in the last decade.

Three men were picked up in morning raids yesterday in the Montreal area while the fourth is already in jail on other charges, RCMP said.

RCMP Insp. Michel Arcand said the men imported at least 35 tons of cocaine into Canada between 1996 and 2004.

He said they are also suspected of transporting an estimated 25 tons of cocaine from Texas to New York in 2002-03.

Arcand described the scope of the case as "immense."

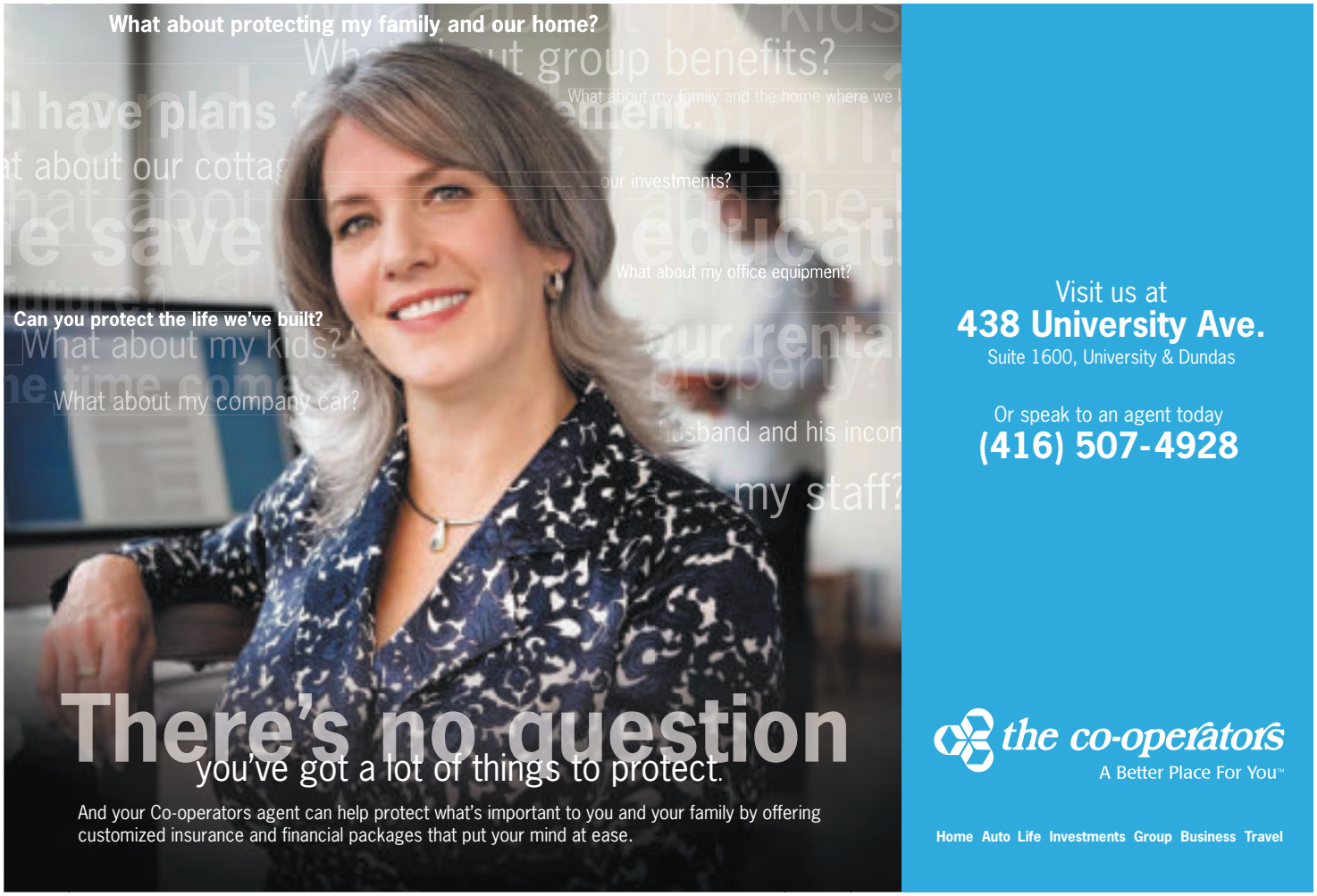
"We're talking about 60 tons of cocaine here," he said. The suspects are all Canadian citizens.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

»news In Brief

» **LANGUAGE** Ontario's French language services commissioner says some francophones in the province aren't getting the services they're entitled to. Francois Boileau tabled his first annual report yesterday and is calling on the province to close the loopholes in the French Language Services Act.

» **DEPORTED** Victor Tejedor Bilbao, a man accused of being a Basque terrorist, has been deported from Canada to Spain, where he faces trial for attempted murder and his alleged role in a bombing campaign. THE CANADIAN PRESS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world

Relatives of 155 people who died when fire raged through a crowded alpine cable car in Austria in 2000 will share $21.5 million in compensation. The settlement announced yesterday ends more than seven years of legal wrangling. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Taliban threat downplayed

Militants not in control of Afghan region: Officials

Taliban militants have destroyed bridges, planted bombs and entered villages in the strategic Arghandab district but Canadian officials downplayed fears that a major battle was about to erupt on the doorsteps of Kandahar city.

Claims that hundreds of Taliban fighters have taken over the villages are greatly exaggerated, the officials said yesterday.

The Pentagon dismissed ominous predictions the Taliban would attack Kandahar city itself. "In talking to our folks, they do not have any imminent concern that Kandahar is about to fall to the Taliban," said U.S. Defence Department press secretary Geoff Morrell.

Canadian officials did not dispute reports of an increased insurgent presence in the Arghandab valley, about 15 kilometres northwest of Kandahar, the second-largest city in Afghanistan.

But the Taliban do not control the area, said Canadian and NATO officials.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

villagers fleeing

» Many villagers were reported to have abandoned their farms and fled, worried that battles could break out now that Canadian and Afghan troops have moved in to confront the Taliban threat.

Levee gives way to rising Mississippi

Floodwaters headed south

The rising Mississippi River broke through a levee yesterday, forcing authorities to rescue about a half-dozen people by helicopter, boat and four-wheeler as floodwaters moved south into Illinois and Missouri.

But even as the water jeopardized scores of additional homes and businesses, officials said the damage could have been worse if the federal government had not taken steps to clear flood-prone land after floods in 1993.

Yesterday, the flooding halted car travel over two bridges linking Illinois and Iowa.

"I'm not going back after this one," said Lois Russell, 83, as she watched water surround her house. It was the third time she had fled her home because of flooding since 1965. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

damage

» Preliminary estimates were the flooding has caused more than $1.5 billion US in damage in Iowa.

SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

David Eberle lays out water soaked pictures to dry on the lawn of his home in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, yesterday. In Cedar Rapids, where 24,000 people were evacuated when floodwater covered about 1,300 city blocks, more people were being allowed to return to their homes yesterday.

Flooding fears linger in China

Floodwaters have begun receding in parts of southern China after swamping a million hectares of farmland and killing at least 63 people.

But even as Chinese officials were reporting good news in the south, they warned heavy rains are forecast for central China over the next few days.

Officials say they are worried about flooding on the Yellow River, the country's second-longest waterway.

The river flows through some of China's most populous and poorest provinces.

Although farms were submerged in the south, the swollen rivers largely spared the tens of thousands of factories in the Pearl River Delta in Guangdong province.

The area is a huge producer of computers, shoes, toys and a wide range of other products for the global market. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mugabe threatens arrests

President Robert Mugabe is threatening to arrest opposition leaders he accuses of supporting mounting election violence in Zimbabwe.

State radio quotes Mugabe as accusing opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai and other leaders in the Movement for Democratic Change of condoning "arson and violence across the country."

Independent human rights observers say it is Mugabe's police, soldiers and party militants who have orchestrated widespread violence in Zimbabwe.

They said it's all part of a campaign of intimidation aimed at ensuring Mugabe wins the June 27 presidential run-off vote after coming in second to Tsvangirai in the first round in March.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

science

Reverse vasectomy successful in horse

ANIMAL Scientists at the Smithsonian Institution's National Zoo have revealed they reversed a vasectomy on an endangered horse to allow it to reproduce naturally — the first-known operation of its kind on an endangered species.

Veterinarians said Monday the surgery was performed in October 2007 on a Przewalski horse named Minnesota.

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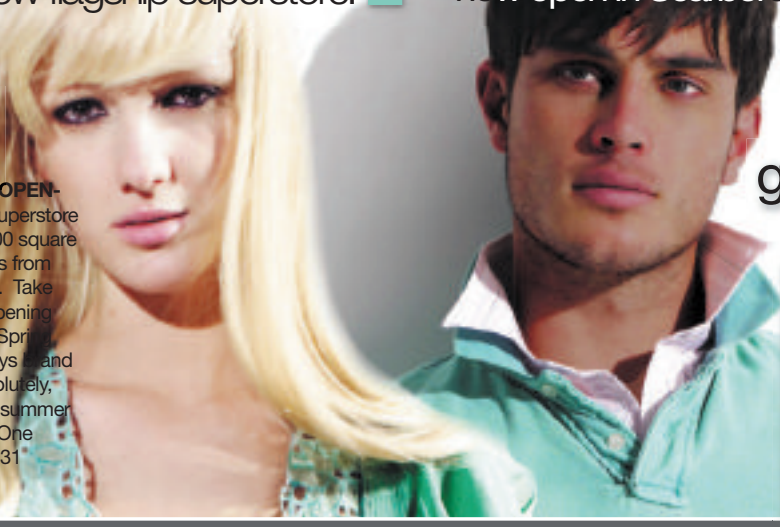
grandopening!

LABELS new flagship superstore! now open in Scarborough!



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NEWS Wednesday, June 18 2008

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MARTIN D
INC ASSOCIATED PRESS

The crowds came out in drones, but it wasn't for the Malvern scenery. Labels, a well known top fashion retailer in Canada opened it's doors on Friday to celebrate the grand opening of it's 15th massive superstore in Malvern Town Centre. Enticing crowds by the thousands with it's unbelievable 50% off Grand Opening Sale, the store was able to reach record sales numbers, including putting it at the top of the list of retail store openings in the city. Utilizing the always attractive combination of high end fashion at value for your money prices, Labels stores are famous for providing the hard-to-get "it" fashions from NYC, Los Angeles and London at price points on par with virtually any contender in the business. Also, never to be outdone, the retail giant has planned a visit from

HIP HOP LEGENDS DAMON DASH AND JIM JONES TO VISIT LABELS STORE FOR MEET AND GREET

Rap moguls Damon Dash and Jim Jones, who will be arriving direct from NYC this Thursday, June 19th. They will be on location in the flesh, autographing photos from 5-7pm that day and giving customers a chance to shake hands with hip hop greatness while checking out the brand new fashions in-store. Needless to say, the expected turnout will be enormous, so get there early if you are planning on attending.

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business

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Air Canada cuts jobs

Some routes will be affected due to high fuel costs

Air Canada plans to cut 2,000 jobs or 8 per cent of its workforce at the end of the year as it reduces capacity to deal with the rising cost of fuel.

Canada's biggest airline warned yesterday there are likely more cutbacks to come as it announced it will cut capacity by 7 per cent from its fall and winter schedule. With oil more than $133 a barrel, the airline estimates it will shell out almost $1 billion more in 2008 than it did in 2007. Among routes being jettisoned are the non-stop Toronto to Rome service — although that will remain for the summer season — and the Vancouver to Osaka, Japan, service. Rival airline WestJet said it has no plans to cut capacity or lay off employees to combat rising fuel costs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

passengers

» Air Canada says the average cost of taking one passenger on a round trip has increased to $230, from $146 in 2007 and $110 in 2004.

GM, union fail to get past roadblock

The Canadian Auto Workers union says it "didn't get very far" in its meeting yesterday with General Motors, as the company held onto its decision to close its Oshawa truck plant next year.

Union president Buzz Hargrove says the union tried to find a way to help GM deal with the weakening demand for trucks.

The union says GM promised in its latest collective agreement to keep the truck plant in production for the three-year life of the contract. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Top court holds off on BCE decision

The Supreme Court of Canada declined to offer a quick judgment yesterday on the $52-billion leveraged buyout of BCE Inc., leaving anxious investors on both sides of the dispute eyeing a June 30 deadline.

BCE counsel Guy Du Pont argued the directors had a duty only to do what is best for the company and its shareholders. But Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin questioned whether corporations had a more general duty beyond what is best for the shareholders and the directors up to the time of the deal going through.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Ontario

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R.S.C. 1985, CHAPTER N-22

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation hereby gives notice that an application has been made to the Minister of Transport pursuant to the *Navigable Waters Protection Act* for approval of the work described herein and its site and plans. Pursuant to section 9 of the said Act, The Ontario Ministry of Transportation has deposited with the Minister of Transport, and in the office of the Land Registrar of the Land Registry Office for the City of Toronto, at 20 Dundas Street West, 4th Floor, Toronto, Ontario M5G 2C2, under deposit number CA 812054, a description of the site and plans of the proposed rehabilitation to the Highway 401 Eastbound and Westbound Core Lanes, Avenue Road to Bayview Avenue, over the Don River.

Comments regarding the effect of this work on marine navigation may be directed to: The Superintendent, Navigable Waters Protection Program, Transport Canada, 100 Front Street South, Sarnia, Ontario N7T 2M4. However, comments will be considered only if they are in writing and are received not later than 30 days after the date of this notice. Although all comments conforming to the above will be considered, no individual response will be sent.

June 10, 2008.

The Ontario Ministry of Transportation, Central Region

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sports

Willie Randolph, left, became the first manager in the majors to be fired this season, getting the axe by New York Mets yesterday after the team's disappointing 34-35 start. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Irish eyes are smiling

Celtics clinch 17th title by hammering Lakers

CELTICS 131 LAKERS 92

On a new parquet floor below aging championship banners, the Boston Celtics won their 17th NBA title and a first one — at last — for Paul Pierce, Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen — their Big Three for a new generation.

After 22 long years, the NBA has gone green.

Lifted by ear-splitting chants of "Beat L.A." from their adoring crowd, which included Boston legends Bill Russell, John Havlicek and JoJo White, the Celtics concluded a shocking rebound of a season with a stunning 131-92 blowout over the Los Angeles Lakers in Game 6 last night.

With the outcome assured, Boston fans sang into the night as if they were in a pub on nearby Canal Street. They serenaded the newest champs in this city of champs, and taunted Kobe Bryant and his Lakers, who drowned in a green-and-white wave for 48 minutes.

Garnett scored 26 points with 14 rebounds, Allen scored 26 and Pierce, the final MVP, added 17 as the Celtics, a 24-win team a year ago, wrapped up their first crown since 1986.

This was total domination. The Celtics obliterated the Lakers, who were trying to become the first team to overcome a 3-1 deficit in the finals.

No way. No how. No chance.

Boston's 39-point win surpassed the NBA record for the biggest margin of victory in a championship clincher; the Celtics beat the Lakers 129-96 in Game 5 of the 1965 NBA finals.

Pierce doused Celtics coach Doc Rivers with red Gatorade. Owner Wyc Grousbeck, who named his group Banner 17 to leave no doubt about his goal, put an unlit cigar in his mouth — a tribute to Red Auerbach, the patriarch who had a hand in the franchise's first 16 titles.

JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

Celtics star Paul Pierce Celtics celebrates with the Finals MVP trophy after he and his teammates finished off the Lakers and the series last night in Game 6.

Garnett dropped to the parquet and kissed the leprechaun at centre court, then found Hall of Famer Bill Russell for a long embrace.

"I got my own. I got my own," Garnett said. "I hope we made you proud."

"You sure did," Russell said.

Rivers pulled Pierce, Garnett and Allen with 4:01 left and they shared a group hug with their coach, who was nearly run out of town last season. In the final minute, Rivers, who lost his father at the beginning of this remarkable season, was soaked by Pierce, the Celtics' captain who decided to stay when things were bad and was rewarded for his loyalty

It was Boston's first title since the passing of Auerbach, whose signature victory cigar was the only thing missing on this night. Even Auerbach, who died in 2006, got some satisfaction. Led by Rivers, his beloved team denied Lakers coach Phil Jackson from overtaking him with a 10th championship.

Bryant, the regular season MVP, finished with 22 points. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brewers belt 5 in rout of Jays

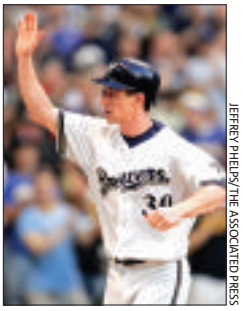
Sour Milwaukee return for T.O.

BREWERS 7 JAYS 0

Manny Parra scattered four hits in seven scoreless innings and Ryan Braun hit two of Milwaukee's five homers, lifting the Brewers to a 7-0 victory over the Blue Jays last night.

Prince Fielder, Russell Branyan and even Craig Counsell homered for Milwaukee, which improved to 2-2 on the current nine-game homestand and won its eighth straight at home against Toronto even though the last game came in 1997.

Parra struck out five and worked around four walks for his fifth straight win. The lefty was at his best when he had to be, getting out of two-on jams in the second, fifth and seventh innings.



JEFFREY PHELPS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Brewers' Craig Counsell celebrates after hitting a home run in the third inning against the Blue Jays last night in Milwaukee.

Parra allowed a pair of singles to Rod Barajas and Lyle Overbay to start the seventh, but retired the next three in order, finishing his night by striking out Alex Rios for the third time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anderson finally gets ticket to Hall

The wait is finally over for Igor Larionov and Glenn Anderson.

Anderson

The Russian centre and the former Edmonton Oilers sniper were elected to the Hockey Hall of Fame yesterday along with former linesman Ray Scapinello and builder Ed Chynoweth.

Many were surprised that Larionov was passed over after first becoming eligible last year. Anderson has waited since 1999 and had to watch as 23 players entered the Hall since he was first able to gain election.

"It's very emotional," said Anderson. "This is right up there with one of the great things I've done in life."

The induction ceremony will be held on Nov. 10.

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ONLY AT THE BAY

BEAUTY at the Bay

Whitecaps feel Impact

Montreal evens record in pursuit of Canadian title

First-half strikes from Severino Jefferson and Joey Gjertson were the difference, but it wasn't an easy 2-0 win for the Montreal Impact over the tenacious Vancouver Whitecaps.

The Impact got their first win of the Nutrilite Canadian Championship last night by taking the lead and holding on in a wild second half in which the Whitecaps did everything but score.

"It was a great team performance," said Montreal goalkeeper Matt Jordan. "We fought to the last minute and that will be key for us moving forward.

"We have a lot of respect for Vancouver. They have some dynamic, dangerous players, but we played well as a team."

The Impact, 1-0 losers at home to Toronto FC on May 27, are 1-1 in the series that serves as qualifying for the CONCACAF Champions League competition later this year.

It was the first game in the series for Vancouver, the United Soccer League's leader which was coming off a 3-0 loss to Rochester in USL play.

The Whitecaps missed some glittering chances in the second half, including one in in the 68th minute in which Matt Jordan slid out and got part of his face on a shot from point blank by Vancouver's big striker Jason Jordan.

"In a situation like that, you just want to stand the player up and make yourself as big as possible," said Jordan, who was shaken up but stayed in the match.

"I was fortunate to get my eye and part of my forehead on it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

»sports In Brief

» **OLYMPICS** Chauncey Billups pulled himself out of consideration for a spot on the USA Basketball team in the Beijing Games, a person in the NBA told The Associated Press last night. U.S. Olympic team coach Mike Krzyzewski said the roster will be announced Monday in Chicago.

» **GOLF** Camilo Villegas sank a putt on the 14th-hole for $130,000, then won a closest-to-the-pin shootout for another $100,000 to walk away the big winner yesterday at the Telus Skins Game in Vernon, B.C. The other competitors were Greg Norman, Fred Couples and Canada's Mike Weir.

» **OLYMPICS** Ian Millar is headed for Olympics No. 9. The 61-year-old equestrian from Perth, Ont., was named to the Canadian Olympic show jumping team yesterday. Eric Lamaze of Schomberg, Ont., Mac Cone of King City, Ont., and Jill Henselwood of Oxford Mills, Ont., round out the riders chosen by Jump Canada's selection committee.

» **TENNIS** Lindsay Davenport withdrew from the International Women's Open yesterday with a knee injury, but expects to compete at Wimbledon. Davenport won the Eastbourne title in 2001, and Wimbledon in 1999.

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A Chip off the old block

YORK REPORT
MARTY YORK
marty.york@metronews.ca

Not since 1941 has a major-leaguer finished a season with a .400 batting average, but it's time now to accept the possibility that this remarkable feat might be accomplished this season.

As the schedule nears the midway point, it's clear the Atlanta Braves' **Chipper Jones** has a legitimate shot at .400. Entering last night, the 36-year-old all-star was batting .403. He hasn't spent a day under .400 since April 12.

And so the late, great **Ted Williams** must be spinning in his, er, freezer.

"I think Chipper can do it," said Hall of Famer **Tony Gwynn**, who was hitting .394 with the San Diego Padres in 1994, when a strike wiped out that season. "Hitting .400 is about giving yourself an opportunity every time you go up and not wasting at-bats, as Chipper does ... I think I could have hit .400 in '94 and I really think Chipper can do it this season."

Oh, and this gem from Gwynn: "I remember Ted Williams once told me 'If I knew hitting .400 would be such a big deal, I'd have done it more often.'"

» MLB has chosen June 24 to ban maple bats, which are shattering at an alarming rate. The players' union is preparing strong opposition ... The Blue Jays' **A.J. Burnett** may be interested in joining the Cubs, but Chicago management would prefer Ontarian **Erik Bedard**, who, along with teammates **Richie Sexson** and Jose Vidro, will be dumped in the Seattle Mariners' house-cleaning plans ... **Pat Gillick's** name is surfacing as a possible replacement for **Bill Bavasi**, fired Monday as Seattle's general manager. Gillick, 70, insists he'll retire after this season, but we've heard him whistle that tune before, as far back as when he was Toronto's GM early last decade ... **Tim Russert**, the NBC political analyst who died while working last week, was a director of baseball's Hall of Fame and served on its board alongside **Frank Robinson**, **Brooks Robinson**, **Tom Seaver** and **George Steinbrenner**. Russert also was a close friend of the Raptors' **Kris Humphries**, who'd stay at the broadcaster's home whenever Toronto visited Washington.

» And NHL rumblings: The Pittsburgh Penguins may trade **Evgeni Malkin** if they re-sign **Marian Hossa** and **Jordan Staal**, the Los Angeles Kings may hire **Paul Maurice** as coach and either **Doug Gilmour** or **Joe Nieuwendyk** will be hired as the Maple Leafs' new assistant GM.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.

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NBA FINALS
BOSTON VS. L.A. LAKERS
Game 6 — Last night
L.A. Lakers at Boston
Game 7 — Tomorrow
*L.A. Lakers at Boston, 9
(Boston leads series 3-2)
(* – if necessary)

MLB

AMERICAN LEAGUE
EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Boston	45	29	.608	
Tampa Bay	40	29	.580	2
N.Y. Yankees	38	33	.535	5
Baltimore	34	34	.500	7½
TORONTO	**35**	**36**	**.493**	**8**

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Sox	38	31	.551	—
Minnesota	35	36	.493	4
Cleveland	33	37	.471	5½
Detroit	32	38	.457	6½
Kansas City	28	42	.400	10½

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
L.A. Angels	42	29	.592	—
Oakland	38	31	.551	3
Texas	35	36	.493	7
Seattle	24	46	.343	17½

NATIONAL LEAGUE
EAST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Philadelphia	42	31	.575	—
Florida	38	32	.543	2½
Atlanta	35	36	.493	6
N.Y. Mets	34	35	.493	6
Washington	29	43	.403	12½

CENTRAL DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Chicago Cubs	45	25	.643	—
St. Louis	42	29	.592	3½
Milwaukee	36	33	.522	8½
Pittsburgh	34	36	.486	11
Houston	33	37	.471	12
Cincinnati	33	39	.458	13

WEST DIVISION

	W	L	PCT	GB
Arizona	37	33	.529	—
L.A. Dodgers	32	38	.457	5
San Francisco	31	40	.437	6½
San Diego	31	41	.431	7
Colorado	28	42	.400	9

LAST NIGHT'S RESULTS
INTERLEAGUE
TORONTO at Milwaukee
Boston 3 Philadelphia 0
Minnesota 2 Washington 1
N.Y. Yankees 8 San Diego 0
Houston at Baltimore
Chicago Cubs at Tampa Bay
Atlanta at Texas
Pittsburgh at Chicago W. Sox
Kansas City at St. Louis
Cleveland at Colorado
Oakland at Arizona
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels
Florida at Seattle
Detroit at San Francisco
NATIONAL LEAGUE
L.A. Dodgers 3 Cincinnati 1

TODAY'S GAMES
INTERLEAGUE
Boston at Philadelphia, 1:05
Detroit at San Francisco, 3:45
San Diego at N.Y. Yankees, 7:05
Houston at Baltimore, 7:05
Chicago Cubs at Tampa Bay, 7:10
TORONTO at Milwaukee, 8:05
Atlanta at Texas, 8:05
Washington at Minnesota, 8:10
Pittsburgh at Chicago W. Sox, 8:11
Kansas City at St. Louis, 8:15
Cleveland at Colorado, 9:05
Oakland at Arizona, 9:40
N.Y. Mets at L.A. Angels, 10:05
Florida at Seattle, 10:10
NATIONAL LEAGUE
L.A. Dodgers at Cincinnati, 7:10

CFL

PRE-SEASON
TOMORROW'S GAMES
Hamilton at **TORONTO**, 7
Montreal at Winnipeg, 8
Saskatchewan at Edmonton, 9
Calgary at B.C., 10
(End of pre-season)

MLS

MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER GAMES FEATURING TORONTO FC:
SATURDAY'S GAME
Kansas City at **TORONTO**, 3:30

EURO 2008

GROUP A

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Portugal	2	1	0	5	3	6
X-Turkey	2	1	0	5	5	6
Switzerland	1	2	0	3	3	3
Czech Rep.	1	2	0	4	6	3

GROUP B

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Croatia	3	0	0	4	1	9
X-Germany	2	1	0	4	2	6
Austria	0	2	1	1	3	1
Poland	0	2	1	1	4	1

GROUP C

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Netherlands	3	0	0	9	1	9
X-Italy	1	1	1	3	4	4
Romania	0	1	2	1	3	2
France	0	2	1	1	6	1

GROUP D

	W	L	T	GF	GA	PT
X-Spain	2	0	0	6	2	6
Sweden	1	1	0	3	2	3
Russia	1	1	0	2	4	3
Greece	0	2	0	0	3	0

(X - clinched quarter-final spot)
YESTERDAY'S RESULTS
Netherlands 2 Romania 0
Italy 2 France 0
TODAY'S GAMES
Greece vs. Spain, 2:45
Russia vs. Sweden, 2:45

LOTTERIES

Ontario Pick 3	2 2 2
Ontario Pick 4	8 7 9 1
Encore	6024608
Daily Keno	3, 5, 6, 7, 16, 20, 30, 32, 34, 35, 37, 39, 46, 47, 55, 56, 59, 61, 67, 70. Results not official

»sports In Brief

» **NFL** Standard tickets for the first three Buffalo Bills games in Toronto are 90 per cent sold out, organizers said yesterday. Remaining registrants on *www.billsintoronto.com* will now have the opportunity to buy the available tickets for the games in 2008 and '09. The premium VIP ticket packages, which range in price from $350-$575 per ticket, are also available for public sale.

» **NFL** U.S. Sen. Arlen Specter said he won't call for congressional hearings on the NFL's investigation of the Spygate scandal after previously threatening to do so. Specter's office confirmed yesterday his comments a day earlier to the Philadelphia Daily News editorial board. Specter, the ranking Republican on the Judiciary Committee, had written in a Senate floor statement earlier this month that "I believe the NFL should step forward and embrace an independent inquiry."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Raiders receiver hurt in robbery

Walker beaten for cash, police say

Oakland Raiders wide receiver Javon Walker remained hospitalized with a concussion and a battered face yesterday, one day after he was beaten, robbed and left unconscious on a Las Vegas street after a night of partying.

Walker

Police said a large amount of cash and some jewelry were taken from Walker, who suffered "a moderate concussion and significant injuries to his face."

Police Lt. Clinton Nichols said detectives are retracing Walker's activities in the hours before he was found injured Monday morning on a street off the Las Vegas Strip.

"That's one of the first things we do, backtrack what he did and where he stayed," Nichols said, adding that the investigation was still in the early stages.

"We knew there was a large amount of cash taken, and some jewelry."

Walker, 29, signed a $55-million US, six-year deal with the Raiders after being released by the Denver Broncos in February.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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New Fall Intake Information Session:
Monday, June 23, 2008 from 7 - 9 p.m.
At Oakham House, Ryerson Student Campus Centre, Room G
55 Gould Street, Toronto

The Sheridan Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning offers a one-year graduate certificate program in Canadian Journalism for Internationally Trained Writers.

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EURO 2008

Greece head coach Otto Rehhagel will keep his job despite his team's swift departure from this year's European Championship, the nation's soccer federation said yesterday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Italy survives 'Group of Death'

France eliminated after big Group C showdown

World Cup champion Italy made it through the toughest group at this year's European Championship, advancing to the quarter-finals Tuesday by beating France 2-0.

The Italians, who benefited from the Netherlands' 2-0 win over Romania in the other Group C match, got goals from Andrea Pirlo and Daniele De Rossi in Zurich, Switzerland, after Eric Abidal was red-carded for bringing down Luca Toni in the 24th minute. In the knockout round, Italy will face Spain on Sunday in Vienna.

"This was a great response from the entire team," Italy coach Roberto Donadoni said. "Our enthusiasm and spirit pushed us forward, even when it all seemed lost at one point."

The Dutch team had already clinched first place in the group, but Klaas-Jan Huntelaar gave the second-choice squad its third straight win by tapping in a cross from Ibrahim Afellay in the 54th in Bern. Robin van Persie added the other in the 87th.

"This says a lot. This is not a 'B' team," Van Persie said. "We have one group, 23 players. We are as good as equals."

On Wednesday, the final quarter-final spot will be decided when Sweden plays Russia in Innsbruck in Group D. The Swedes need only a draw, while the Russians need to win to set up a match against the Netherlands on Saturday in Basel. The Spaniards play Euro 2004 champion Greece in Salzburg.

Portugal, Turkey, Croatia and Germany have also reached the quarter-finals. Italy, which beat France on penalties to win its fourth World Cup title two years ago, took the lead Tuesday after Abidal brought Toni down from behind.

The Italy striker beautifully controlled a long pass into the area with his right leg stretched to the limit, but was then hit by Abidal with goalkeeper Gregory Coupet coming forward. The referee gave Abidal a straight red card and Pirlo sent the ensuing penalty kick into the top left corner.

De Rossi made it 2-0 in the 62nd with a free kick that deflected off France captain Thierry Henry.

France, already playing without injured midfielder Patrick Vieira, faced more trouble early in the match when Franck Ribery was injured while fouling Gianluca Zambrotta in the seventh minute. Zambrotta walked away from the collision, but Ribery was taken off the field on a stretcher and replaced a few minutes later by Samir Nasri. After Abidal's red card, Nasri was taken out and replaced by Jean-Alain Boumsong.

"For me, this team has a future. I am proud of what they did," France coach Raymond Domenech said. "This team has real potential, players who can hope to have a big future."

The Netherlands had a few chances to score in the first half, most notably when Huntelaar's soft pass to Arjen Robben in the area was shot wide. But Huntelaar calmly tapped in the lone goal in the second half after Afellay's cross got through several players standing in front of goal.

With the Netherlands already assured of a spot in the quarter-finals, many believed the Dutch team would contrive to lose its final Group C match, thereby allowing Romania to advance and avoid the possibility of facing either Italy or France in the semifinals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ASSOCIATED PRESS/MATT DUNHAM

Italy's Gianluigi Buffon celebrates his side's 2-0 win at the end of the group C match between France and Italy in Zurich, Switzerland, yesterday, at the Euro 2008 European Soccer Championships in Austria and Switzerland.

Germany coach facing suspension for bickering

Germany coach Joachim Loew will learn today if he'll be banned from the touchline for his team's European Championship quarter-final match against Portugal.

Loew

Loew is facing a possible suspension after he and Austria coach Josef Hickersberger were banished to the stands by the referee after they appeared to bicker with the fourth official shortly before halftime of Germany's 1-0 win Monday.

UEFA's control and disciplinary body was set to make a decision yesterday once it had read the referee's report, but the governing body said the meeting had been put back a day so that it could review any incidents from Tuesday's first-round matches between France and Italy, and the Netherlands and Romania as well.

Loew would also be able to appeal against any ban, so the timing further hampers Germany's preparations for the crucial match in Basel, Switzerland. The three-time champions have already had one day less rest than Portugal and any ban for Loew, would prevent him from having any contact with his players or assistant coaches.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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114 Broadway Ave.

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Oshawa Centre

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Wednesday, June 18, 2008

Accent on maximum value

Hyundai compact does not skimp on quality, fun

By **MICHAEL BANOVSKY**
for Metro Toronto

Other than the attractive pricing, the Accent also looks ready to compete with quality and "fun factor."

Ten grand. Well, $9,995 if you want to split hairs. That's the cash price on the 2008 Hyundai Accent L three-door, a hatchback that was already a likable little compact car.

The price, incidentally, doesn't extend to the sedan version, and expectedly you get a pretty basic car for the money.

But it's 10 grand — what do you expect? The biggest and most-essential option is air conditioning, which isn't standard equipment, and rings in at $1,678.95 as a dealer-installed option. Add another $1,000 if you want the optional four-speed automatic.

If you'd like the full rundown of what to expect after slipping behind the wheel of the least expensive car in Canada (a claim shared by its similarly priced Kia Rio corporate cousin), you'll find: Power steering, 14-inch steel wheels with full wheel covers, dual front airbags, seatbelt pre-tensioners, 60/40-split folding rear seats, multi-adjustable driver's seat, four-speaker AM/FM/CD/MP3 stereo, tinted glass, rear spoiler, and rear wiper/washer.

The Accent L's engine is a torque-rich, 1.6-litre four-cylinder rated at 110 horsepower that's a good match for the optional four-speed automatic transmission. The standard five-speed manual works well, though the long throws between gears detracts from the sporty ride.

There's nothing out of the ordinary on the chassis or on the steering and suspension side, but it's the end product that counts and the Accent delivers a solid feel on the road. The ride is slightly firm, but the body doesn't lean much and this appealing little car takes corners very confidently.

The subcompact segment in Canada is alive with tough competitors these days. Witness the Honda Fit and Nissan's Versa, not to mention the Suzuki Swift, Chevrolet Aveo, Pontiac Wave, Toyota Yaris and Kia Rio. In this category, Hyundai sees the Yaris as its main rival and, in typical Hyundai fashion, it's taking on the Toyota with a bigger car and more stuff for the money.

If you've got very little to spend, even a well-maintained used car may be on your radar. But arranging financing, making sure the vehicle is sound, and warranty headaches can result from not doing your homework. Buying a super-inexpensive car from a dealership alleviates those concerns — plus it lets you slip into a "new" car.

Before the price reduction, the Accent could hold its own against its market rivals. Now, it looks ready to also compete on quality and in the "fun factor" sweepstakes. Now, it's 10 grand — and still very much the good car it was at its original mid-$13,000 price point.

2008 Hyundai Accent

- Type: Subcompact two-door hatchback FWD
- Price: $9,995
- Engine: 1.6-litre L4 DOHC
- HP: 110 @ 6,000 rpm
- Torque: 106 @ 4,500 rpm

Highlights:

- Only 10 stacks!
- Good looks
- Good value
- Safety equipment

Power steering and dual front airbags are some of the items you'll find inside one of Canada's least expensive cars.

Headlights play an extremely important role in safe driving.

Shine a little light on the road ahead

When drivers get behind the wheel, their headlights, one of the most important tools for driving safely, is often overlooked.

Poor visibility, especially at night, is a serious driving hazard.

According to the U.S.-based Motor Vehicle Lighting Council, poor visibility is cited as a factor in an estimated 2.8 million accidents, 23,000 fatal crashes and 2,300 pedestrian deaths every year.

Many people don't even realize they have choices when it comes to headlight bulbs. In fact, you can select from a range of bulbs that provide different levels of brightness that have a real impact on how far you can see down the road at night. Premium bulbs, for example, are actually 50 per cent brighter and increase forward visibility by 40 per cent when compared to standard bulbs.

The following simple tips can also help make night driving safer:

» Change headlights in pairs before they burn out. Most headlights dim over time so evaluate yours every year for optimum performance.

» Upgrade to high-performance halogen lighting for a brighter, whiter light. Studies have shown that whiter halogen lighting can improve reaction time, increase nighttime visibility and give better roadside viewing.

» Check headlight alignment. Misaligned headlights can be distracting and dangerous. Ask your auto service technician to align them for you.

» Clean headlight lenses regularly. You'll see better at night and in poor weather conditions.

» Make sure all vehicle lights are working. Have a friend turn on your headlights and signal lights while you walk around the outside of your vehicle for a visual check.

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Return to roots

Fit proves Honda can still build great subcompacts

By **BRADLEY HORN**
for Metro Toronto

The likable four-door, five-seat Fit is Honda's entry-level product, positioned below the much-loved Civic model.

The likable four-door, five-seat Fit is Honda's entry-level product, positioned below the much-loved Civic model.

Since the Fit's 2001 debut in Japan (where it's also built), the Fit has spread to 117 countries (including Europe under the "Jazz" name), won several awards, and has already surpassed the one-million sales mark.

There's a conscious effort throughout to engineer as much cargo room as possible into the Fit's compact dimensions. While the front suspension is a design similar to that in the new Civic, the rear is a torsion beam layout — chosen because it allows the cargo floor to sit 72 mm lower than with a multilink design.

Honda also moved the Fit's fuel tank from the usual space behind the rear seats to beneath the front chairs, freeing up room for the car's innovative flipping and folding seat layout.

That space saving allows the 60/40-split rear seats to do some pretty amazing acrobatics. The standard "Magic Seat" has four arrangements: Foremost is "Utility," where the rear seatbacks folds forward (and flat) without removing the headrests, almost doubling the cargo volume from 603 litres (21.3 cubic-feet) to 1,186 litres (41.8 cubic-feet). "Tall" sees the seat cushion fold up for carrying vertical objects. "Long" puts the rear and front seat down flush for carrying objects up to 2.4 metres (8 feet), followed by "Refresh," were the front seats recline flush with the rear cushion, creating a bed-like setup.

Also standard is an electric power-assisted rack-and-pinion steering system (from the new Civic Si), which allows for sporty handing and improved fuel economy. Also standard are ABS brakes.

2008 Honda Fit

- Type: Subcompact five-pass. hatchback FWD
- Price: $14,980
- Engine: 1.5L L4 SOHC
- HP: 109 @ 5,800 rpm
- Torque: 105 @ 4,800 rpm

Highlights:

- Clever interior
- Great on fuel
- Good residual value
- Fun to drive

Power comes from a 1.5-litre four-cylinder engine using Honda's VTEC variable valve timing system and drive-by-wire throttle control. All models put out 109 horsepower — not huge, but in the thick of it with the rest of the class. The standard transmission is a smooth five-speed manual, with a class-exclusive five-speed automatic optional, geared to get the most out of the small displacement engine.

Another segment exclusive is the steering wheel-mounted paddle shifters available on Sport models. With the Fit in "Drive," you can downshift for passing with the paddles and the transmission will automatically return to a higher gear when the car is back to a steady speed. Select "Sport" mode and the transmission holds the gear until it's manually shifted.

Company founder Soichiro Honda once said, "You must go after the opportunities that arise in life that you are best equipped to do." With the Fit, Honda has returned to its hatchback roots, proving that even with high-end Acuras and the NSX under its belt, the automaker still knows what makes a great subcompact.

In Sync with cutting-edge tech

By **MICHAEL BANOVSKY**
for Metro Toronto

The downside to rapid progress in electronics means that automakers are constantly on the back foot when it comes to totally embracing new technology.

What devices should they support? What devices will people be using in their cars next year? What about six months from now?

Spending more than $30,000 on a car that doesn't know what an iPod is wouldn't be viewed by techno-savvy buyers as money well spent.

To combat and complement the constant crowd of new devices, Ford and Microsoft have teamed up to produce Sync, a new take on automotive connectivity. Both a hardware and software solution, it pairs steering wheel controls and an internal microphone with a sophisticated software platform mounted in the car.

Ford and Microsoft have teamed up to produce Sync, a new take on automotive connectivity.

The system can interface with most USB-based media players, including the incumbent (iPod) and challengers (Zune, Nomad Zen, etc.). By interface, I mean you can take direct control of the player from the car's controls. Your player will also charge through the USB port.

You can also slot in a USB thumb drive — a small, unpowered memory stick that can be loaded with any content from any computer, including thousands of MP3 files. Sync can access any music contained on a USB thumb drive, provided it isn't a protected format (iTunes store purchases won't work, but AAC and WMA files, among others, will.) It will play protected iTunes store purchases only if they're still on your iPod.

If you're so inclined, music can be served up with voice commands. Simply touch the button on the steering wheel, wait for the prompt, and say: "USB," then, "play," music from your device will start to play.

Commands that work are: Album, artist, genre, track name, or play similar — which will shuffle and grab other similar artists and playlists.

If your phone has Bluetooth, you can access just about any aspect of your device from Sync. You can say a number aloud and it will dial it, or just say the person's name. If they have more than one entry in your phonebook, Sync will ask which number you'd like.

Sync was built on Windows CE, the platform Microsoft uses for cellphones and other digital devices. It can be upgraded, and downloadable upgrades can be handled through *syncmyride.com*, or through your Ford dealer.

Car wash poll on celebs

Former tennis star Anna Kournikova has been voted the celebrity most people would like to see wash their car in a new survey published by Motorpoint, a leading car supermarket in Britain.

The tennis ace was singled out as the "Car Wash Belle" in a nationwide poll of female celebrities that men would most like to see in their driveway with a bucket and sponge cleaning their vehicle. She was followed closely by singer Christina Aguilera, who ironically released a single Car Wash a few years ago, and actress Scarlet Johansson.

In the same study, Hollywood hunk Johnny Depp, star of Pirates Of The Caribbean was named "Car Wash Hunk" by female voters, edging fellow actors George Clooney and Ewan McGregor for the top spot.

Commenting on the findings, a Motorpoint spokesman explained: "Washing your car is often thought of as just a routine part of vehicle maintenance. However, our study shows that drivers wouldn't pass on a helping hand from a celebrity."

Anna Kournikova

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"Huey," the first production Land Rover from 1948.

60 years of adventure

Iconic Land Rover made public debut in 1948

Six decades ago, a motoring icon made its public debut, when the original Land Rover was shown at a motor show in Amsterdam in 1948.

The current Defender (not sold in Canada) is clearly descended from that first vehicle, known as a Series 1. Extraordinarily, they even share a couple original parts, an oil filler plug and a cleat for tying down the canvas roof. But the rest of the vehicle technology has moved on considerably.

Since the first Series I model rolled off the production line at Solihull, the vehicles created by Land Rover have defined the SUV market. In 1970, the company introduced what's been called the most significant SUV ever, the Range Rover — the first SUV to be equally capable on-road as off-road.

Their spirit of adventure has been evident from the earliest days. Adventurers, farmers, scientists, naturalists, and outdoor sport enthusiasts have all used Land Rovers' capability to access some of the world's most inhospitable regions. For 60 years, the company's vehicles have also worked for a multitude of humanitarian and conservation organizations, represented today by the brand's formal ties with the Born Free Foundation, Biosphere, and the Royal Geographical Society.

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toyota grad program

Honda CR-Z

Honda readying flashy hybrids

Honda has released additional details regarding its new small hybrid car scheduled for introduction early next year.

The official product name and full product details will be announced later this year.

The automaker has managed to slim down the nickel-hydride battery pack to make the car cheaper to produce, resulting in the most affordable hybrid vehicle to date.

Honda says it will be offered as a five-door hatchback with seating for five passengers and will employ an exterior design concept that evokes the Honda FCX Clarity fuel cell vehicle.

"Honda has been at the forefront of hybrid development since first introducing the Canadian public to hybrid technology with the launch of the Insight in 1999," said Jerry Chenkin, executive vice-president of Honda Canada Inc.

"New advancements in technology and production systems are resulting in cost reductions that will allow us to make hybrid technology available to a new generation of Canadian car buyers at a more affordable price."

There are also plans to introduce another unique small hybrid vehicle based on the CR-Z sports car concept, first seen at the 2007 Tokyo Motor Show, as well as a Honda Fit hybrid model.

Including the Civic Hybrid, these four gasoline-electric hybrid cars are expected to reach combined annual global sales of about 500,000 units.

expected sales

» Annual global sales of 200,000 units per year are expected for the Honda FCX, with approximately 100,000 accounted for by the North American market.

Honda FCX

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USA: ONE-WAY Tango or Tango Plus fares from Toronto. Travel must be completed by September 30, 2008.

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$99	$128	$146	$150	$156	$161	$204	$254

Sun: ONE-WAY fares from Toronto, for travel as indicated below.

NASSAU	BERMUDA	MEXICO CITY	PORT-OF-SPAIN	MONTEGO BAY	HAVANA	BARBADOS	HONOLULU
JUNE 18, 2008–AUG. 31, 2008	JUNE 18, 2008–AUG. 31, 2008	JUNE 18, 2008–AUG. 31, 2008	JUNE 18–30, 2008 AUG. 1–31, 2008	JUNE 18–30, 2008 AUG. 1–31, 2008	JUNE 18, 2008–AUG. 31, 2008	JUNE 18, 2008–AUG. 31, 2008	JUNE 18, 2008–SEPT. 30, 2008
$239	$265	$270	$279	$289	$298	$400	$419

International: Fares are EACH WAY from Toronto and require ROUND-TRIP purchase. Departure dates as indicated below.

LONDON HEATHROW	PARIS	MUNICH[1]/FRANKFURT[1] DÜSSELDORF[1]	BUENOS AIRES SANTIAGO	HONG KONG	BEIJING SHANGHAI	TEL AVIV	SYDNEY, AU
SEPT. 27, 2008–DEC. 17, 2008	OCT. 13, 2008–DEC. 10, 2008	OCT. 13, 2008–DEC. 10, 2008	JUNE 18, 2008–JULY 13, 2008	SEPT. 4, 2008–NOV. 30, 2008	SEPT. 1, 2008–DEC. 7, 2008	SEPT. 1, 2008–DEC. 17, 2008	JUNE 18–22, 2008 JULY 24, 2008–AUG. 31, 2008
$219	$260	$275	$425	$575	$649	$678	$779

Fares displayed do not include fuel surcharge of $20–$50 one way within North America. Fuel surcharge on Sun and International routes is $65–$220 each way.

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If you're heading to Europe anytime soon, you'd be wise to stay up-to-the-minute on news about transportation-crippling strikes and protests occurring across the continent. Trust us — a train strike or food shortage can ruin your whole holiday. METRO WORLD NEWS

Beijing's essential experiences

Expert tips on key sights in China's capital

A visit to Beijing can be daunting for the uninitiated. What you really need is advice from a local expert who can give you the lowdown on where to experience the best of the Chinese capital. And who better to share their knowledge than a concierge? Here, Leigh Li, chief concierge at top Beijing hotel, The Peninsula (*beijing.peninsula.com*), gives her insider's tips on what to experience when you visit Beijing.

1. ACROBATIC SHOW — See the show staged at Wan Sheng Theatre in Qian Men District, one of the oldest districts in Beijing. Show starts at 7:15 p.m. daily.

2. 798 ART AREA — ICON OF CHINESE CONTEMPORARY ART — Located in the Dashanzi area, to the northeast of central Beijing, 798 is a cultural centre housed in what used to be several state-owned factories including Factory 798, which originally produced military machinery.

Artists and cultural organizations began to colonize the factory spaces in 2002 and it's now home to galleries, art centres, artists' studios, design companies, restaurants and bars as well as the new Ullens Centre for Contemporary Art.

3. HUTONG TOUR — Take a ride on a two-passenger, bicycle-driven rickshaw through the city's historic "hutong" district, where many of the residents still live in traditional quadrangle dwellings.

GETTY IMAGES

A couple stand face to face in a covered walkway named Long Corridor at the Summer Palace imperial garden in Beijing.

4. THE OLYMPIC STADIUMS — Visit the newly-built Olympic stadiums including the Bird's Nest and Cube Aquatics Centre.

5. LEARN ABOUT BEIJING HISTORY AT THE CAPITAL MUSEUM — This recently-opened museum features the history of Beijing and Chinese architecture — a must for anyone who wants to know more about the capital. Open 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (closed every Monday).

6. EXPLORE THE GREAT WALL — China started building the Great Wall since before it was a nation. The best-known section of the Wall is Badaling in the mountains of Yanqing County.

For an alternative view, visit the Juyongguan Pass, just south of Badaling, in Changping County and a bit nearer to Beijing. The most recently restored part of the Wall, it spans one of the nine narrow passes crossed by the Wall.

7. THE FORBIDDEN CITY — It took a million labourers and 100,00 artisans to complete the first version of this Imperial palace between 1406 and 1420, during the Ming Dynasty. The total area of the complex is 183 acres, so it takes quite a while to walk through, especially if you want to have a close look at everything. There are 999 rooms in the museum, although not all of which can be visited. For an aerial view over The Forbidden City, walk to the top of the Coal Hill in Jingshan Park.

8. PANJIAYUAN MARKET — The mother of all antique markets, Panjiayuan is home to 3,000 dealers who scour the countryside in search of antiques, family heirlooms and curios. This is the place to go for everything from 1930 silk qipao dresses to 1990 Qing-looking furniture and almost everything in between. Open only on weekend mornings.

9. TEA STREET — Tea Street was originally called "Iris Street." It now houses eight wholesale markets and more than 600 tea shops selling more than 500 kinds of tea leaves. Close to West Beijing Railway Station.

10. CHILL OUT IN HOU HAI — Lotus Lane is the happening district of the Hou Hai lake area, where there are a number of small eateries and interesting bars, many with live music. There are also several small shops selling art.

11. BOATING OR SKATING IN THE SUMMER PALACE — One of the best parks in the city, it was established as a retreat for emperors to escape the scorching summer heat of Beijing.

Walk along the famous Long Corridor, the covered walkway that runs alongside the park's Lake Kunming — it's the longest painted corridor in the world according to the Guinness Book of World Records. Also on the shore of the lake is the Marble Boat, the lakeside pavillion where royals used to take tea.

12. FLY A KITE IN TIANANMEN SQUARE — It's easy to buy a kite in Beijing. In spring (April and May) and autumn (September and October), flying a kite in Tiananmen Square is the perfect way to enjoy this traditional activity to the fullest. METRO WORLD NEWS

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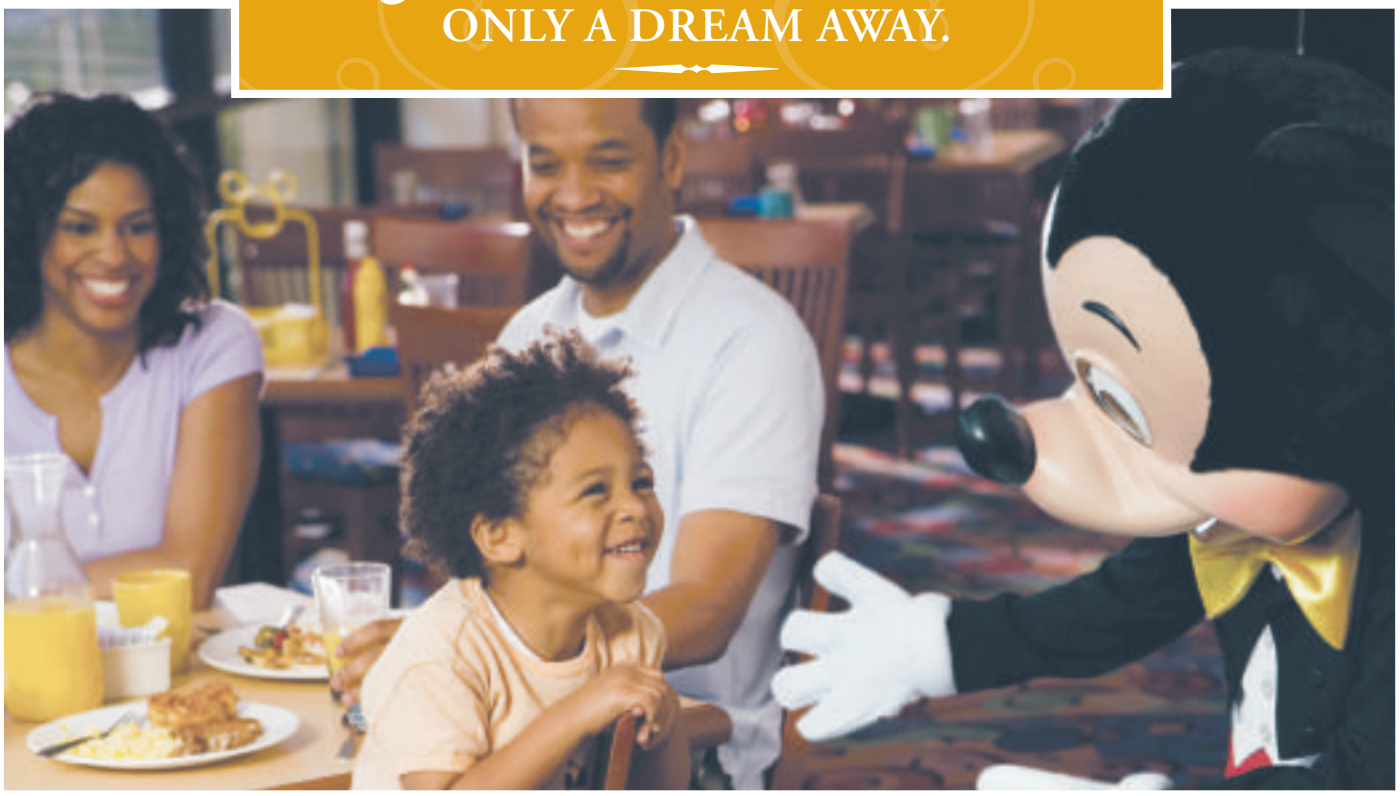

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This file photo shows a view of Algonquin Park. On July 1, the park will be among 15 locations across the country to host The Hbc Run For Canada, which supports Canadian athletes.

Running in the park

Algonquin Park is among hosts of Canada Day event

Runners can always opt to pound the hot pavement during summer months, but why not add gorgeous surroundings to your workout?

On July 1, The Hbc Run For Canada, a fundraising event for Canadian athletes, will take place in 15 locations across the country — and one of those locations will be Algonquin Provincial Park.

The event comprises a 10K Run, 3K Walk and 1K Kids Run, and volunteer positions are also available. In Algonquin, the Mew Lake Campground will serve as the staging area for the event. The start/finish line, food tents, entertainment and more will be located there.

Consider pitching a tent at the campground. Half of the 131 sites, partially nestled amidst a White Pine forest, feature electricity and other amenities. Mew Lake Campground also features a beach, and a handicapped-accessible comfort station with flush toilets, showers and laundry. Participants will receive a free pass into Algonquin Park with their registration.

for more information

» *www.hbcrunforcanada.ca*
(Click on About Hbc Run For Canada, then under the Select Your Community menu, pick Algonquin Park.)
» *www.algonquinpark.on.ca*

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Marsh maze near Ottawa offers up-close views of local wildlife

The Ottawa area has a new eco-tourism attraction: a water maze called Eco-Odyssee. Visitors use paddleboats to explore canals and discover animal and plant life in a 28-hectare marsh labyrinth.

This is the first year of the Eco-Odyssee, which has been in development since 2002. It's located in the heart of Outaouais, 30 minutes from Gatineau-Ottawa.

An evening excursion occurs between 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. to see the awakening of nocturnal animals — including minks, beavers, muskrats and great-horned owls — as diurnal animals, such as ducks and birds of prey, settle in for the night. There's also a dawn outing between 5:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m. when animal activity is at its peak.

Some other adventures, lasting about two hours, involve searching for clues and identifying specific elements, like an animal or a birdhouse.

for more information

» *www.ecoodyssee.ca*

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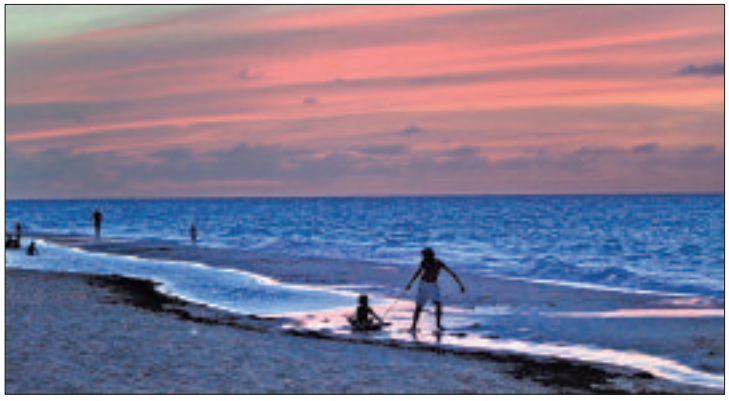
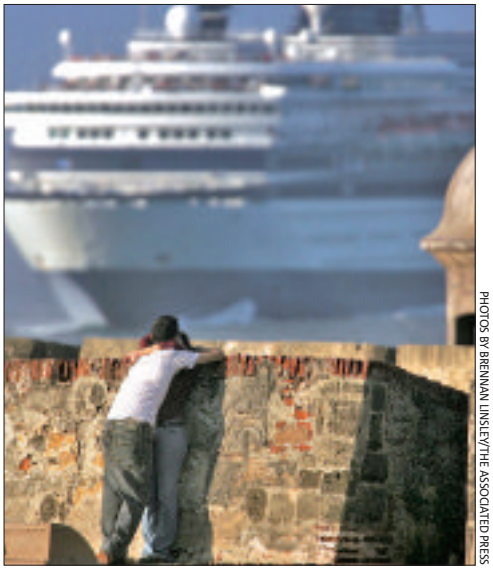
Fuel costs and flight cuts could hurt Caribbean travel

Puerto Rico's cruise industry threatened





PHOTOS BY BRENNAN LINSLEY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Expensive jet fuel and a soft American economy are threatening to sink Caribbean tourism. Pictured above: San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Expensive jet fuel and a soft American economy are threatening to sink Caribbean tourism as airline ticket prices soar and flights are sharply reduced, choking the flow of vacationers that many tiny islands depend upon.

Tourism is the economic cornerstone of the Caribbean, which drew more than 15 million visitors last year to colonial cities and carefree beaches.

"Billions of dollars of investment are being exposed and thousands of jobs are being exposed," said Allen Chastanet, chairman of the Caribbean Tourism Organization.

Airlines are cutting back across the world as passengers balk at paying fares that have risen along with fuel costs. The Caribbean is particularly vulnerable because one foundering airline, American, controls much of the market — for example, it carried more than 60 per cent of passengers travelling through Puerto Rico last year.

American now expects to cut daily flights out of Puerto Rico's capital to 51 from 93 in September. Some flights will be cut to Santo Domingo, Antigua, St. Maarten, Aruba and Samana in the Dominican Republic, spokeswoman Minnette Velez said.

> *« (Resorts) that appeal particularly to price-sensitive families are in a world of trouble. »*
>
> *Christopher Hart*

Fewer flights to Puerto Rico could also jeopardize the island's cruise ship industry, since it would be harder for passengers to reach the island to board. Ten cruise ships used Puerto Rico as their home port last year.

Rather than raise ticket prices so high that they're beyond the reach of most customers, American has decided to cut flights and reduce capacity, Velez said. "Travelling would be completely inaccessible if we increase fares as oil prices rise," she said.

Other carriers are making similar moves. Spirit Airlines recently said it would close its San Juan hub, and Continental Airlines expects to soon announce destination and flight cuts.

The Caribbean is still affordable for wealthy travellers but resorts "that appeal particularly to price-sensitive families are in a world of trouble," said Christopher Hart, a professor at the Cornell University School of Hotel Administration.

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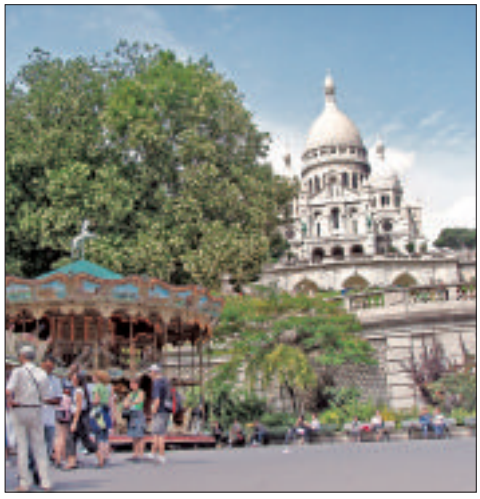
The insider's guide to Paris

Experiences for the eyes, ears, wallet and palate

By **OIHANA GABRIEL**
Metro World News



The picturesque Montmartre, left, is one of the most romantic areas in Paris and best known as the artist's quarter, full of cute, traditional bars and cafés. For those more interested in shopping, however, the seven floors of the historic department store Galeries Lafayette must be explored.

There's something for everyone in this romantic city. Visit in August and you'll have the city to yourself, as most locals will be on holiday for the month.

where to stay

BUDGET:

LE LIONCEAU — Simple, cheap (40 euros for a double room), this hotel is located in a very nice neighbourhood. Cable and English. 22 rue Daguerre 75014. Metro: Denfert.

MID-RANGE:

HOTEL DU PANTHEON — Part of a family-run chain of charming, affordable two- and three-star hotels in the heart of upmarket Saint Germain. The Hotel du Pantheon has a particularly cosy atmosphere and luxurious interiors offering traditional Louis XVI with a twist and a stunning view, making it an exceptionally romantic place to stay. From €90 per room, with up to 50 per cent discount for online advance bookings. 19 place du Panthéon, 75005. Metro: Cluny-La Sorbonne. *hotels-paris-rive-gauche.com.*

DELUXE:

GEORGE V — This gorgeous five-star hotel offers — for an expensive price — luxury and comfort. 245 rooms, swimming room, jacuzzi, massages... 31 avenue George V, 75008, Metro: Georges V; *fourseasons.com/paris.*

what to see

LES QUAIS DE SEINE — The quays of the Seine are a wonderful place to stroll and observe Paris. Buy cheap second-hand books, have a little picnic with a view of Notre-Dame, or take a taxi-boat along the river. Metro: Saint Michel to Gare d'Austerlitz.

MONTMARTRE — One of the most romantic areas in Paris, this picturesque neighbourhood on a hill is best known as the artist's "quartier," full of cute, traditional bars and cafes. At the top of the hill is the Sacré-Coeur, a huge white basilica in the Roman-Byzantine style, with pretty gardens and great views over the city. Metro: Abesses.

THE CATACOMBS — A fun and original trip beneath the city, this underground maze of tombs dating from the late 18th century opened two years ago. It might be a bit sinister but it gives you an insight into a secret Paris and a piece of history. 1, Avenue du Colonel Henri Rol-Tanguy, 75014. Metro: Denfert. *catacombes-de-paris.fr.*

VIADUC DES ARTS — A 4.5-km floral promenade that runs from Bastille to Reuilly, built on a former viaduct. Walk along the viaduct, look over the roofs of Paris and smell the perfume of lavender, or check out the artists' studios based in the vaults underneath. Avenue Daumesnil. Metro: Bastille. *viaduc-des-arts.com.*

MUSÉE DU QUAI BRANLY — Don't miss the new Musée du Quai Branly, designed by architect Jean Nouvel, which opened in 2006, dedicated to non-European cultures, showcasing treasures including Vietnamese costumes and Aborigine paintings. 37 quai Branly, 75007. Metro: Alma-Marceau. *quaibranly.fr.*

what to buy

FOOD:

LA GRANDE EPICERIE DE PARIS — If you want to take back some local specialities, you'll find them at this upmarket food shop: Foie gras, salmon, pasta, teas, chocolates and cheese. 5000 product, French and international. 36 rue de Sèvres 75007. Metro: Vavin. *lebonmarche.fr.*

CLOTHES:

GALERIES LAFAYETTE — If you have limited time in Paris, you'll find everything you need on the seven floors of this historic department store, from French fashion, to shoes and perfumes. 40 boulevard Haussmann, 75009. RER: Auber. *galeries-lafayette.com.*

MUSIC:

GIBERT JOSEPH — This big shop in the Quartier Latin is the rendez-vous for music fans, selling classical, rock, jazz. Helpful staff, reasonable prices and very cheap second-hand CDs. 34 boulevard Saint Michel 75006. Metro: Odéon. *gibertjoseph.com.*

ART:

PARIS DESIGN MARKET — Every Sunday, more than 100 painters, photographers, sculptors and jewellers, display their work at the Paris Design Market. Metro: Edgar Quinet.

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CONT. FROM LAST PAGE

where to drink

BAR OURCQ — A small bar, cosy and cheap. As soon as the sun is back choose between sunlounger or petanque. You can take a mojito or a beer in a plastic glass and have a walk along the canal of l'Ourcq. 68 quai de la Loire 75019, Metro: Laumière. *barourcq.free.fr*.

LE PANTALON — This tiny atmospheric bar draws in students with a mix of cheap drinks, loud music and eccentric interior decorations including paving stones, a traffic light and a balcony. 7 rue Royer-Collard 75005. RER: Luxembourg.

LES DEUX MAGOTS — One of the most famous cafés of Paris, Les Deux Magots has attracted writers, philosophers and poets including Sartre, Simone de Beauvoir and André Gide since it opened in 1933. Old-fashioned waiters dressed in black and white serve a traditional menu, with a coffee at 4 euros and salads from 8 euros to 17. 6 place Saint Germain des Près. Metro: Saint Germain des Près. *lesdeuxmagots.fr*.

where to party

UNDERGROUND:

TRUSKEL — Rock rules, and there's a club in Paris that knows it. From outside, the Truskel looks like an Irish pub, but inside indie concerts and DJ sets will take you to the end of the night. Entrance is free and the drinks are quite cheap. 10-12 rue Feydeau. Metro: Bourse. *truskel.com*.

EXPENSIVE/EXCLUSIVE:

LE SHOWCASE — It didn't take long for the Showcase to become the place to be last summer in Paris. If not for the great number of VIPs, you have to go there for the beautiful dancehall and the view on the Seine river, under the magnificent Alexandre III bridge, near Concorde. But don't forget — you'll have to dress up to get in. Port des Champs-Elysées. Metro: Champs-Elysées-Clémenceau. *showcase.fr*.

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TICO

Divers take the plunge

Divers are now able to swim in the Georgia Aquarium's Ocean Voyager tank in Atlanta. It's not a cheap trip, costing $190 US for snorkellers and $290 for scuba divers. But the aquarium has so far been encouraged by the response. Aquarium spokesman Dave Santucci said some 1,500 signed up for the program before it even started last week.

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Staying fit on the road

Keep on track with these tips

Stripped of exercise equipment, routine — and, well, discipline — it's not always easy staying fit on the road. The life of a travel writer is random, with little opportunity to spend a night in the same hotel, let alone maintain a monthly gym membership.

THE TRAVEL JUNKIE
JULIA DIMON
www.thetraveljunkie.ca

For the past few years, I've struggled with how to stay in shape while travelling but as I prepare for my upcoming stint abroad, I've finally enlisted the help of a professional.

Nathan Mellalieu is founder of Studeo 55, a boutique health club in the heart of Vancouver. This former college football player turned gym president has worked with the likes of Anne Hathaway, Jennifer Garner, Jessica Alba, Halle Berry, Harrison Ford and Ben Affleck, whipping them into shape with a series of specialized workouts.

Appreciating the fact that I roam around like a gypsy without the luxuries of a trainer, treadmill or weights, Nathan assures me there are ways to stay fit while I travel. He offers the following advice:

» There are many exercises that can be done on the floor of your hotel room: Squats, lunges and push-ups, the ultimate upper body exercise.

» Running is a great way to burn fat and keep the body trim. Run hard for three minutes, rest for one minute. Repeat this 5-7 times.

» If you don't mind carrying a few extra items in your suitcase, buy a heart rate monitor (to work out within your desired target heart rate) and an elastic band (for resistance training). There are a variety of arm exercises that can be done with a simple, lightweight band.

» People often say they're too tired to exercise. Remember that you don't have to conquer the world with every workout. Take a 15-minute walk, then stretch on the pool deck. Make your routine realistic but it's important to do something active, even if it's just a half-hour's worth of moving around.

» While waiting for connecting flights in the airport lounge, go for a walk around instead of just sitting.

» When coming home from a long day of sightseeing, walk up the stairs to your hotel room instead of taking the elevator.

Freelance writer Julia Dimon is host of Word Travels, airing on OLN. Contact her at www.thetraveljunkie.ca

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workology

Nominations for Canadian Worker of the Year are open now at *canadianworkeroftheyear.ca*. The search is open to all Canadians and individuals can nominate themselves or someone for the title. Four finalists will be announced on Aug. 20. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Fired worker ordered back

More workplaces will use concept of 'working notice'

We have decided to fire you. Now go back to your desk and finish your work!

After a bitterly fought election of a new union executive whose candidacy he had opposed, Teamsters business agent Donald Evans saw the writing on the wall. When the new union president took over, Evans and five other employees lost their jobs.

After 23 years with the Teamsters, 58-year-old Evans thought he deserved better; he wanted a severance package that would see him retire. Evans suggested that he would work for another 12 months and that he be paid for 12 more. The Teamsters disagreed. Five months after Evans left, they sent him a letter telling him that if he refused to come back to his job, they would treat his absence as misconduct and pay him no more. Rather than return, Evans sued.

At trial, the judge considered whether Evans was obliged to return to the very workplace that had fired him. Agreeing with Evans that to expect him to return to his old job would be unreasonable, the trial judge awarded him $100,000 in severance, known as wrongful dismissal damages.

WORKPLACE LAW
DANIEL LUBLIN
dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com

Appealing the ruling to the Supreme Court of Canada, the Teamsters argued that the law of mitigation permitted them to order Evans back to the workplace, even after he had already been fired. The legal duty to mitigate provides that dismissed employees are required to take all reasonable steps to replace their jobs. Where an employer can establish that other, comparable jobs were available, an employee who fails to apply for them, or turns one down, may risk not being entitled to further severance.

In this case, the Teamsters argued that Evans' failure to return to his job should have been viewed as a failure to mitigate. The Supreme Court agreed. By offering Evans his old job back on the same terms as before, the Teamsters were able to show that a comparable job was open to an employee who declined it.

The ruling in this case will place many employees in "the twilight zone," somewhere between having been fired and expected to later return. Employees should carefully observe the following lessons:

»Where an employer offers its former employee a bona-fide chance to return to work, employees may be required to accept, unless they can objectively show there is an atmosphere of hostility, embarrassment or humiliation. Work with counsel to take steps to "build" that argument.

»Employers will now, as a result of this case, more often elect to exercise their right to provide working notice of termination, requiring dismissed employees to remain at work while they look for another job.

Daniel A. Lublin is an employment lawyer focussing on the law of dismissal. He can be reached at dan@toronto-employmentlawyer.com.

on the »
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age » *33*

occupation » *Motivational speaker*

location » *Bay and Dundas*

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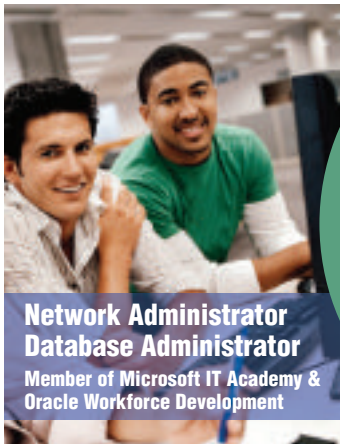
Photo by Enza Supermodel



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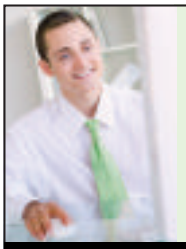

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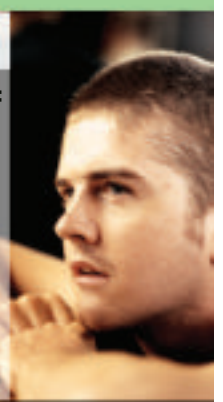

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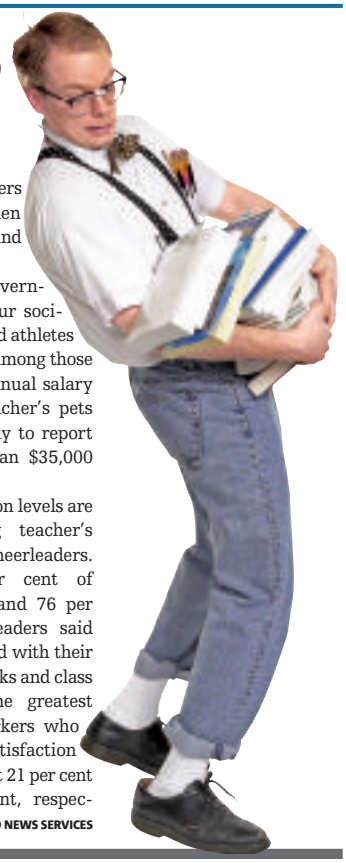
Do nerds win out?



High school personas affect career: Study

Does your status in high school impact where you'll eventually be in the workforce?

As high school graduations approach, *Career Builder.com* asked more than 6,000 full-time workers age 30 and older to categorize their high school persona, and then compared those personas in terms of job level, salary, industry and job satisfaction.

Categories included personas such as student government, athlete, geek, honour society, cheerleader, drama club, teacher's pet and class clown.

"Thirty-nine per cent of workers age 30 and older said their high school experience had an influence on the job they hold today," said Rosemary Haefner, vice-president of human resources at CareerBuilder. "While there are a variety of factors that determine one's career path, high school … is essentially a stepping stone into a world of opportunity."

Comparing job levels, the study suggests that cheerleaders were more likely to hold a vice-president role. Those who were in student government and teacher's pets had the greatest number of workers serving in director/manager/team lead positions today (24 per cent). Teacher's pets also had the greatest number of workers holding administrative/clerical positions (41 per cent).

Former honour society members, athletes and geeks were more drawn toward professional and technical services positions at 59 per cent, 55 per cent and 52 per cent, respectively. Former student government members were more likely to report making a six-figure salary with 12 per cent stating they are paid an annual salary of $100,000 or more. Honour society members followed and then athletes, geeks and class clowns.

Student government and honour society members and athletes ranked highest among those who earn an annual salary of $50,000. Teacher's pets were more likely to report earning less than $35,000 per year.

Job satisfaction levels are highest among teacher's pets and cheerleaders. Eighty-one per cent of teacher's pets and 76 per cent of cheerleaders said they are satisfied with their jobs overall. Geeks and class clowns had the greatest number of workers who reported dissatisfaction with their jobs at 21 per cent and 18 per cent, respectively. METRO NEWS SERVICES

job contentment

» Contentment with career progress is more prevalent among teacher's pets and athletes while student government members and geeks showed the greatest dissatisfaction with their career progress.

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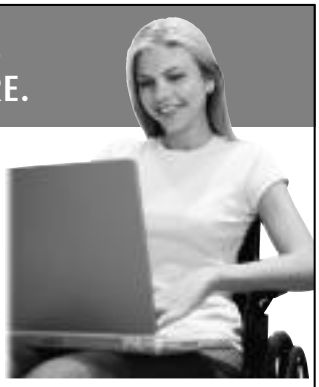

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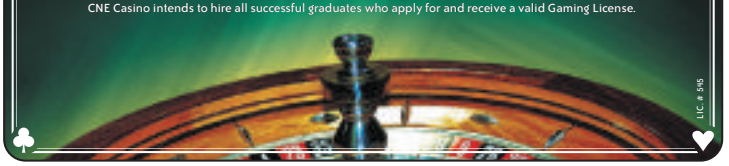

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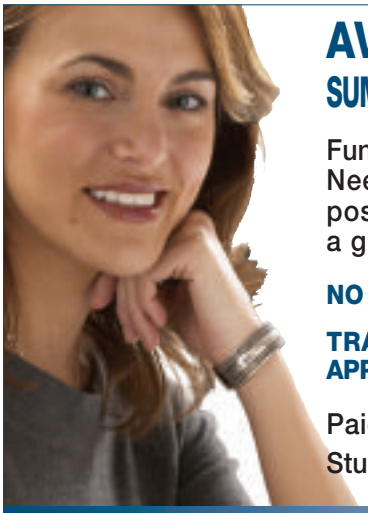

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Video gaming industry maturing

Requirements, salaries indicate lucrative careers

The cyber whiz kid raised on Cheesies and Def Jam looking to leap from his parents' basement to the field of computer gaming may be dismayed to find it no longer resembles the wild west days of Zaxxon.

Salary figures, entry requirements, employee backgrounds and career aspirations suggest the multi-billion-dollar industry is maturing while battling hard for the best and brightest.

"In the past, you might have seen people breaking into the industry through self-schooling or working their way from the ground up (in product testing)," said Josh Holmes, studio manager for Vancouver-based Propaganda Games.

"The new recruits now come with a much more focused skill set, and they're able to hit the ground running."

They come from film schools, art institutes, unrelated fields like medical imaging, along with the traditional post-secondary computing science programs.

Canada is a particularly fertile ground for video game recruiters because of the enormous EA Canada studio in Burnaby, B.C., and Ubisoft in Montreal, both cities home to thriving game developing communities.

Studios recruit aggressively around the globe, forging partnerships with schools and institutions to find new talent and gain an edge in a field that saw $18 billion US spent on video games last year in the U.S.

The figure was $1.5 billion at Canadian cash registers in 2007, up 56 per cent from the previous year.

"There's still a real battle for top talent," said Holmes.

The paycheques are beginning to reflect that.

A recent survey by Game Developer magazine found the average programmer or game producer in Canada now makes more than $70,000 US — the highest salaries in the industry outside of the business departments but less than what counterparts in the U.S. make.

Artists, animators and game designers take home about $58,000 on average, audio techs a thousand dollars less. Quality assurance people who test the games bring up the rear at $37,500 US.

Gaming giant Electronic Arts has invested heavily in the master's digital media program of Great Northern Way Campus in Vancouver — a collaboration involving the University of British Columbia, Simon Fraser University, the Emily Carr Institute of Art and Design and the British Columbia Institute of Technology.

"No longer are people coming in looking at (gaming) as a stepping stone to somewhere else. We have many employees who have 10 to 15 years experience here," Sean Mullins, head of recruiting for EA in Canada, said in an interview from Burnaby.

Mark Kluchky, human resources manager at BioWare studio in Edmonton, said he fields thousands of applications from North America as well as India, China, the U.K., Australia, New Zealand and South Korea.

"A post-secondary degree almost seems standard now," said Kluchky.

Firms also try to work to keep employees happy in this industry that has taken knocks for 13-hour workdays. EA in Burnaby has a soccer field for staff to recharge over the lunch hour. BioWare has a staff lounge with pinball and computer games, a pool table and a sun deck. Propaganda offers social nights, special movie showings along with basketball, skiing and snowboarding.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Angelina Jolie, left, has refused to rule out starring in action films when she is older, hailing Harrison Ford as a perfect example of an aging action hero. IMDB.COM

Idol flips on spotlight

Top 24 contestants from GTA face off for stardom

STORIES BY SANDY CAETANO
Metro Toronto

CTV MEDIA PHOTO

Mookie Morris is one of six Idol competitors from the Toronto area.

Omar Lunan

Age: 29
From: Scarborough

CTV MEDIA PHOTO

Omar Lunan

Having already gotten a taste of how the music business operates, Omar Lunan figured he would try something new.

After having deals with two record labels that both went nowhere, Scarborough's 29-year-old singer and single father felt he had nothing to lose by auditioning for Canadian Idol. He wasn't even supposed to be at the auditions, but went with his younger cousin for moral support.

"I had a show the night before, so I met her there at 7:30 a.m. and she was at the front of the line so I had to find my way through to her (through) about 1,500 people," says Lunan. "So we got inside and she got to a certain point and I got past, which is not bad for somebody who didn't expect to be here."

Lunan has been singing professionally since he was 17, when he was in a group called The Show. His biggest accomplishment musically occurred when he was 17 or 18, when he got to open up for artists like 98 Degrees, Usher, Foxy Brown, Genuwine, Sugar Jones, Soul Decision and more. He and his group were even nominated for a Juno."In the same year I got my high school diploma, so that was a big year for me … I just love music and performing is awesome."

All that matters at this point in the game is providing a stable home and future for his two-year-old son, which is why Lunan says he's in this competition.

"Me and mom are really good, though we're not together, but I've made sure that we're both really active with our son. We do everything we can for him," he says.

Mookie Morris

Age: 18
From: Toronto

Though Toronto's Mookie Morris is only 18, he has had quite a bit of experience in the music industry — experience he hopes will continue and grow into a music career.

Morris, one of this year's Canadian Idol Top 24 contestants, has been singing for years and by the age of 10 he performed to a sold-out show at Toronto's Opera House.

"I've done charity events, too … I've been playing the guitar since I was 12 … if there was any job I thought would be more fun and perfect for me it's singing," Morris says.

As one of six competitors representing the GTA in the singing competition this year, Morris plans on going as far as he can, of course, with the support of family, friends and fans he hopes to gain while on the show.

"I feel proud, I really love this city … and I want to represent us well," he says. "I feel like no one from Toronto gets enough support, so hopefully I can change that this year."

With musical inspirations like John Lennon and Jim Morrison, he feels like he has something unique to offer. And after successfully making it through the Top 200 round, Morris is ready to show Canada what he's made of.

"I've got a catalogue of over 100 songs that I just want to get out there," Morris continues. "I like to call myself new wave. I don't want to be repetitive of anything that's been done before, I feel strongly about just wanting to be different."

more online

» To read stories on other Top 24 contestants, go to *metronews.ca*.

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metro Do it daily.

Veteran singer/actress Liza Minnelli, right, has sparked rumours she will reprise her role in the forthcoming movie adaptation of the TV series Arrested Development — because she is in no mood to retire. IMDB.COM

Singer gets second chance

CTV MEDIA PHOTO

Tetiana Ostapowych

Tetiana Ostapowych
Age: 25
From: Toronto

Trying out for Canadian Idol is nothing new to some hopefuls who have stood in the audition room before.

Tetiana Ostapowych, 25, of Toronto gave the singing competition a shot in Season 1 six years ago, but wasn't lucky enough to get to the gold-ticket round.

"I auditioned for Idol the first season, so I was quite young, but still in college and I wasn't as prepared and knowledgeable as I am now, so I completely blew it," she says. Since then this Top 24 competitor has done some songwriting for other musicians while recently living in Los Angeles. Her musical influences range from John Mayer and Peter Gabriel to Betty Rice and Nina Simone.

"I was in L.A. this past year and I was doing a bunch of songwriting for other people. I haven't really done so much for myself as an artist, so I'm starting to do that," she says.

Ostapowych, who admits she used to line up her teddy bears and sing to them when she was a kid, says the journey to this point in the competition was challenging, but it helped having two friends by her side for support who have also made the Top 24 — Oliver and Sebastian Pigott. The three friends all know each other from their time at Etobicoke School of the Arts.

"I had a big crush on Oliver in high school, I used to sneak out of the house and go and watch his shows," says Ostapowych. "They're both so talented … and I've been gaining a lot of confidence myself just from hanging out with them."

CTV MEDIA PHOTO

Jessica Sheppard

Sheppard draws on previous experience

Jessica Sheppard
Age: 22
From: Whitby, ON

Having gotten so close to where she stands now once before, Jessica Sheppard decided to give Canadian Idol another shot.

Whitby's 22-year-old Sheppard went through the entire audition process last season — from waiting in line for the initial auditions to getting a gold ticket and performing for celebrity judges Jake Gold, Farley Flex, Sass Jordan and Zack Werner. But right before her fate was put into the hands of the voting public, she was cut.

"It's been unreal … because of last season I've just been really focused this year," she says. "I set out for a mission last year but this year I was kind of taking what I thought I deserved and I think I really showed them that I deserve to be here."

Sheppard was the last one eliminated before making the Top 22. And when she got to the auditions this year, she had to relive her emotional elimination while it played on a television behind the registration desk.

"Last year I think I was lacking in my self-esteem. I've always had a self-esteem issue growing up and it kind of showed on stage," she says.

Knowing if she's done a good job delivering her song comes down to the emotion she's able to convey. "I'm so looking forward to seeing somebody cry in the audience," she says. "If I see somebody tear up … I'm going to be like, 'yes, that's awesome, I did it,' and make them feel the conviction I'm singing with."

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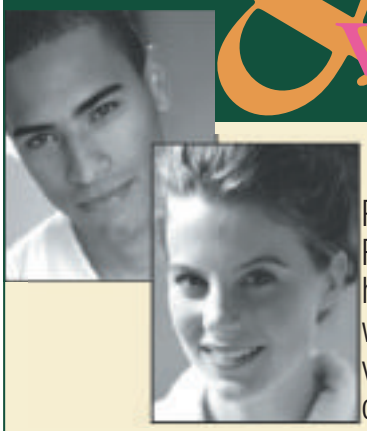

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Take it to the next level

CTV MEDIA PHOTO

Oliver Pigott returned to Toronto from Britain for Canadian Idol.

Oliver Pigott

Age: 27
From: Toronto

Experience seems to be the name of the game this year, as many of Canadian Idol's Top 24 contestants have been doing what they love — singing and making music.

Though playing gigs here and there may have its ups and downs, competitors like musician Oliver Pigott, 27, from Toronto, says he felt it was time to take his career to the next level and try something new.

"What I was looking forward to originally I've already had and I hope to get more," says Pigott. "(That) is playing with people from all across the country I wouldn't have otherwise had the opportunity to play with and people who have a lot to offer creatively."

Prior to auditioning for Canadian Idol this year, Pigott called London, U.K., home for a few years while he booked himself a small tour across Britain, playing in clubs and other venues. He's done a lot of solo work, written many songs and was receiving a good response from fans who came out to watch him perform, he says.

But when he heard about auditions for this year's season of the popular singing competition, he returned to Toronto to try out with his younger brother Sebastian.

"I feel very connected to this city, obviously, because I grew up here," he says.

"I have a lot of unique qualities to offer, and I think the amount of time I've spent on stage helps out a lot, too," continues Pigott. "I think of myself as quite good, I don't want to sound arrogant or anything, but being here just puts things in perspective."

more online

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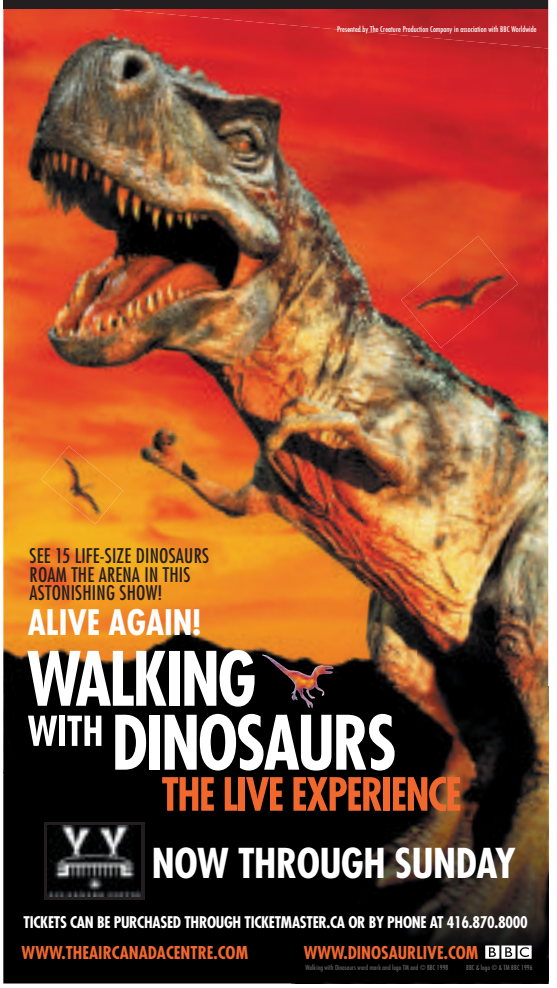
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movies

Passchendaele set to open TIFF

FESTIVAL Passchendaele, the First World War epic from Canadian actor and filmmaker Paul Gross, is opening this year's Toronto International Film Festival, The Canadian Press reports.

The film, starring Gross and Caroline Dhavernas, will have its world premiere at the festival when it opens on Sept. 4. Passchendaele was inspired by the story of Gross's grandfather, an Alberta veteran of the First World War. Gross wrote and directed the film.

driving incident

Dayne pleads no contest to charge

PEOPLE Taylor Dayne has pleaded no contest to a reckless driving charge in connection with her March 6 arrest. Beverly Hills Judge Richard Stone ordered the singer to serve two years' probation and complete a Mothers Against Drunk Driving program, district attorney spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'I can sing it better'

Sebastian Pigott
Age: 25
From: Toronto

CTV MEDIA PHOTO

Sebastian Pigott was impressed with the Idol judges' remarks.

Reaching this part of the Canadian Idol competition has been an exciting journey for Sebastian Pigott, who admits he always thought he could do better than competitors on previous seasons of the show.

"I would see the people in the Top 10 and I'd be like, 'Oh, that's your singing? I can sing it better,'" says Pigott, 25, from Toronto. "And I was in my living room and (would) be like, 'This is what I can do … you watch.'"

Pigott, who auditioned for the singing competition with older brother Oliver, 27, says he was surprised with how the judges critiqued his performance. Though he wasn't quite sure what to expect, he has been pleasantly impressed.

"They were a lot cooler and smarter than I expected … they were really accurate … they were really specific," he says. "They said that I'm a stylist and Zack said, 'You take the shortcomings in your voice and you turn them into assets.'"

Both he and his brother lived in Portugal with their mother for a few years when they were younger, and even performed in a few places there. Music has always been a passion for the Pigott brothers, and though there's definitely pressure to do better than his big brother, Oliver wouldn't have auditioned if Sebastian didn't.

"What we do is totally different, I mean he's got so much soul, more than any person I've ever known who can sing," says Pigott. "I just try to put on the best show … I would rather do a good job and get sent home than do a crap job and get through."

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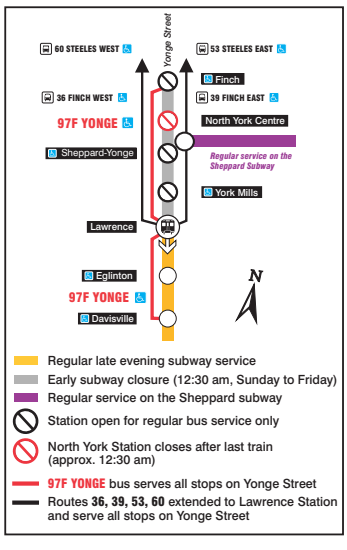
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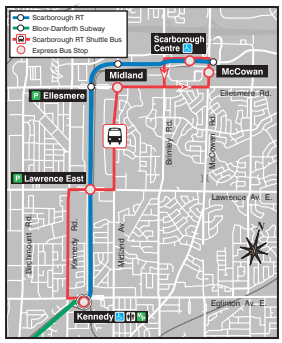

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Get Smart gadgets not all fiction

By **GLEN MILLER**
Metro Toronto

Funny thing about those gadgets in Get Smart. The people who make them in the real world are paying attention. So too was the case in 1965 when the Get Smart TV series first launched.

With all the shtick and catch-phrases the comedy TV series became famous for, the gadgets have endured in their legacy: The shoe phone, the cone of silence, the list goes on.

Truth is, the real makers of gadgets and weapons do take note when some deceptive device appears on the big or small screen. That gadget might come darn close to mirroring what exists in the real world of espionage.

The covert devices used in the Get Smart movie are not far removed from the ingenuity dreamed up four decades ago.

Anne Hathaway, who plays Agent 99 in the film, got to employ three gadgets, and loved learning how to execute them: The compact that releases a gas that exposes laser beams; exploding dental floss; and a cellphone with knockout gas inside it.

"When the gadgets worked, it would be great, but another funny part is when they wouldn't work," Hathaway told Metro.

In fact, Hathaway says one contribution of hers to the film, well other than that acting part, was suggesting how to execute a gadget scene that had been going awry for Steve Carell (Maxwell Smart, Agent 86). She suggested how he could better handle one of his gadgets to fix a nagging problem that was holding things up on the set.

"I was proud of that," she says.

From the TV series, scenes featuring the cone of silence contain some of the best comedy skits going, but guess what ... it existed.

Director Peter Segal says someone who worked on the movie had a relative who had a connection to the CIA and was able to confirm this fact: The cone of silence was used in the American Embassy in Moscow. A plastic cone was placed over people and music played inside so the conversations couldn't possibly be picked up by a bug.

"And, as usual, they said it didn't work," said Segal, laughing. "Almost everything in the movie is based in some kind of reality and so we came up with a few of our own gadgets to go along with some of the iconic ones (from the TV series)."

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Dickinson still rolling

Ex-Catherine Wheel front man says reunion not out of the question

By **IAN NATHANSON**
for Metro Toronto

A Catherine Wheel reunion isn't totally out of the question, according to Rob Dickinson.

The front man for the '90s U.K. alt-rockers responsible for such singles as Black Metallic, The Nude and Crank even proffered a time frame: Just not this year.

"Everyone still keeps in touch," Dickinson tells Metro of his relations with guitarist Brian Futter, drummer Neil Sims and latter-day bassist Ben Ellis. "It might be 2010 as the time to think about doing something again. But we'll see."

Ideally, that would mark 20 years since Catherine Wheel first formed in Great Yarmouth, England, and 10 years since the "parking of the band," as Dickinson affectionately calls it, following its fifth record, Wishville.

For Canadian fans, the last known sighting of Catherine Wheel was during Our Lady Peace's cross-country Summersault musicfest in 2000. But Dickinson explains by that time, "Some of that sense of adventure had disappeared. There was no reason for us to keep slogging away other than to please ourselves. We all had other things we wanted to do."

Futter and Sims immersed themselves in a project called 50 Ft. Monster and Ellis joined a new group, Serafin. Dickinson, meanwhile, moved to New York and later California (where he now calls home), reignited an old passion for designing high-end sports cars (Porsches in particular) and working at a snail's pace toward his 2005 solo debut for Sanctuary Records, Fresh Wine For The Horses.

"(The record) took a long time to get ready in the first place — I tend to be notoriously slow at everything," he jokes.

Even after its release, Dickinson still felt the disc could be improved. While he says Sanctuary might not have initially given the record its proper due — the label disappeared in late 2007 — he credits interest from producer pal Bob Ezrin (Alice Cooper, Pink Floyd, Catherine Wheel) and Universal Canada president and CEO Randy Lennox in giving a reworked Fresh Wine, re-released last week on the Fontana International label, a second shot.

"It was that rare opportunity to be able to reassess the record by messing around with the sequencing," he says, "doing some editing, remastering and adding a new song, The End Of The World, plus the second disc Nude (with six acoustic reworkings of Catherine Wheel favourites). I genuinely think this album is now in a state where it should've been the first time around."

PETER KAGAN PHOTO

Rob Dickinson plugs his re-released disc, Fresh Wine For The Horses, tonight at the Mod Club.

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Fall's big shows leaked

INTELLEVISION

RICK McGINNIS
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LEAKED: Somebody at my favorite TV blog, TVtattle.com, must have let their curiosity do the (net-) surfing for them, because they discovered that at least two of this fall's big new shows have already been leaked to online file-sharing networks, months in advance of their premieres. J. J. Abrams new X-Filesesque Fringe is out there, as is True Blood, Alan "Six Feet Under" Ball's new vampire show for HBO.

The TVtattle blogger found them on a site called Insomniac Times, whose proprietor posts about alternate energy tech and other geeky stuff along with the odd leaked file making its way out there onto Pirate Bay and other sites. A quick search on *btjunkie.org* revealed that both shows have already been disseminated pretty widely, with hundreds of "seeders" for True Blood alone.

Now, I realize that I'm being a naughty boy by even talking about this stuff, but the fact is screeners get leaked all the time, and if you're really hot to see a show, either a few weeks or months after it has aired, or just as long in advance, chances are you'll probably be able to find it out there in the Internet's capacious grey zones. The media is usually blamed, but by the time newspapers and magazines have been serviced with sneak previews of new shows, they've usually made their appearance online, put out there by someone a bit higher in the screener food chain at the studios or their production and duplication houses.

Having finished product available long before it's supposed to be broadcast — even if it's theoretically meant for a select audience — is the real problem, since simple laws of supply and demand, not to mention human nature, means that leaks will happen, no matter how much security is put in place. Lawsuits won't work either, Hollywood homies — just ask your depressed buddies in the music business.

What's required at this point is a whole new way of looking at production and programming — a change that's basically revolutionary, if you're a network executive working with a business model that hasn't changed since Burns And Allen was a radio show. Forget broadcasting, fall debuts, even seasons; with a pilot in hand, the networks — or any producer with access to a distribution network online — can make a show available, and gauge audience response accordingly, and at a fraction of the cost of producing episodes in advance of demand.

Every fall, shows fall by the wayside after just a handful of episodes, with even more in the can, while networks scramble for replacements for the now-vacant time slot, to the consternation of advertisers. Every year, this system looks more and more precarious, and the sense of dissatisfaction and anxiety increases, while the audiences have already begun consuming programming the way they want — at their leisure.

The future, at least for TV, is now — somebody just has to tell the networks.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 6/18/08	265	353	2	TVO	On the Trail of Tarka		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Canterbury Tales		Human Edge		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	The Office	The Office	The Office	The Office	ReGenesis		News (N)
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	22 Minutes	Little Mosque	Sophie (HDTV)	CBC News: the fifth estate		CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Friends	Hollywood	Make Me a Supermodel		Rock of Love-Bret Michaels		Model Search (N)		News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	eTalk	Jeopardy! (N)	So You Think You Can Dance Top 18 finalists perform.				CSI: NY (HDTV)		News (N)
	218	345	11	CH	The Insider (N)	E! News	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N)			Celebrity Circus (N)			News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama	Visages	Sous les pierres de Gaza		Rencontre (2002, Drame)				Yeux-parler
	-	-	14	-	Law & Order: SVU		News (N)		News (N)		King	King	Cold Case
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	World's Most Amazing Videos		Toronto Sings		To Serve and Protect		Grill Rm.
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Price Is Right Spectacular		Criminal Minds (HDTV)		CSI: NY (HDTV)		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N)			Celebrity Circus (N)			News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Paid Program	Paid Program	Supernanny		Supernanny		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Wheel-Fortune	Degrassi: Next	Wife Swap		Supernanny		Supernanny		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy	Two/Half Men	So You Think You Can Dance Top 18 finalists perform.				Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Vicar of Dibley	Luther ★★ (2003, Biography) Joseph Fiennes.				God on the Brain (DVS)		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model		Farmer Wants a Wife (N)		CW11 News at Ten		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	MLS Soccer Red Bull New York at New England Revolution.				Jeopardy!	Frasier	Frasier	Cheers
	298	653	332	TLA	Reba	Reba	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Family Guy	Family Guy	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Next Model
news	502	390	26	NW	News (N)	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		SuperHuman Giants		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		CNN Election Center		Larry King Live		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow & Company		Fast Money		American Greed		The Big Idea With Deutsch		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	Poker		MLB Baseball Toronto Blue Jays at Milwaukee Brewers. From Miller Park in Milwaukee.						Sportsnet Con.
	400	400	30	TSN	SportsCentre	Euro Today (N)	Golf 2008 TELUS Skins Game -- Day 2.					SportsCentre	
	411	457	58	OLN	Exploration	Videos	Ed's Up	Angry Planet	The Rig: Oil	Man's Work	Word Travels	Globe Guides	Pilot Guides
	417	406	81	SC	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Unique Whips		Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Pass Time	Pinks
family	551	542	25	YTV	Malcolm-Mid.	Prank Patrol	Fries That?	Futurama	Prank Patrol	Mystery Hnt.	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	George-Jungle	Scooby Doo	Scooby-Doo	6teen	Total Drama	Futurama	Superman III ★★ (1983, Science Fiction)		
	556	540	51	FAM	That's-Raven	Smart Guy	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	Shopping Bags	Style by Jury	Smart Cookies	Stuck	Maxed Out	Style by Jury	Stuck
	570	580	29	MM	MuchNewsWk	Gone Wild	Most Powerful Musicians		The Shift		PunchMuch		Gone Wild
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Prey"		CSI: Miami (HDTV)		CSI: Miami "Three-Way"		CSI: Miami
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	I Misteri di Cascina Vianello (Italian).				The Sopranos (SS)		Raymond
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Popaganda		Back In	Uncovered	Scott Baio 46	Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Celeb. Rehab
	575	583	38	CMT	CMT30	Totally	Cheerleader Nation		Reba	Hope & Faith	Home Improve.	Roseanne	Totally "1999"
	616	521	39	SHO	ReGenesis "Talk to Him"		Da Vinci's Inquest		Trailer Park	Rent-A-Goalie	Big Love "Pilot" (N)		House
	620	523	40	BVO	Literature Alive	Arts & Minds	Wingfield	Camera	Mad Men		Entourage	Bravonews	Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Women on Top	Til Debt-Part	X-Weighted "Melanie" (N)		How to Find a Husband		Trading Spouses		X-Weighted
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Reveille"		Re-Inventors	Re-Inventors	Mob Stories		NCIS "Reveille"		Crime Stories
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	22 Minutes	Laughs	Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Lewis Black	Comedy Inc.	Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Buy Me	Hid Potential	House Worth?	Property Virgin	Big City Broker	Unsellable	Buy Me	Open House
	294	529	47	TBS	Family Guy	Family Guy	Angel Eyes ★★ (2001, Drama) Jennifer Lopez, Jim Caviezel.				Frasier	Frasier	Seinfeld
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park	The Boot	Access	First Time Felon ★★ (1997, Drama) Omar Epps, Delroy Lindo.					Comicview
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate SG-1		Star Trek: Voyager		Zombiemania		Supernatural		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	MTV e2	Cribs	4REAL	MTV e2	The Real World		The Real World		MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	TV Made, Do It	TV Made, Do It	ET Canada	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Frasier	Family Guy
	603	561	56	FOOD	Road Grill	Licence to Grill	Restaurant Makeover		Iron Chef America		Dinner Imposs.	Glutton-Punish.	Challenge
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Sorry!	No Place Like	Jeeves and Wooster		Rabbit Fall	Get-Famously	Side Effects
	621	527	63	STR	Look-A-Like	Hollywood	TMZ (N)	eTalk	Sitting-Diddy	In Fashion	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		eTalk
	553	546	65	TRE	Wonder Pets	Nght Grdn	Wiggle-Learn	Franklin	Little Bear	Miss Spider	Comfy Couch	Rolie Polie Olie	Beren. Bears
	115	711	101	TVA	Marché	Poule-oeufs or	Juste le meilleur		Esprits criminels (HDTV)		TVA 22 heures	Sucré-salé	Secret-sauce
	126	730	102	RDI	Dominique Poirier en direct		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		Le Club des ex	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	CLT	The West Wing		Imperium: The Rise and Fall of an Empire Rome.				Traders "Us and Them"		The West Wing
	300	601	301	M1	(7:15) The Perfect Assistant (2008, Drama)				World Trade Center ★★★ (2006, Drama) Nicolas Cage.				Volver
	305	612	306	PIX	Salvador (1986)	(7:25) Gridlock (1996, Suspense)			Monkey Shines ★★★ (1988, Horror) Jason Beghe.				2103-Deadly

critics' corner

Family Guy

He has a lot of voice credits under his belt, but this time James Woods gets to play himself. As any fan of the series knows, the local high school is named after the actor, so when Brian — in a bid to impress his black girlfriend — suggests the school change its name to Martin Luther King Jr. High, Peter brings Woods in to stop him. This creates a rift between dog and owner, and Woods becomes Peter's new best friend — and his psycho stalker. 5:30 PM on TROP

Criminal Minds

Doctor, please report to Room 101. This episode may put you in mind of the novel "1984" and the movie "Feardot.com," both of which featured people being tortured by the things they feared most. Here, it's a psychiatrist who's finding out what people's biggest fears are and using that knowledge to kill them. Thomas Gibson stars in "Scared to Death." 9 PM on CBS

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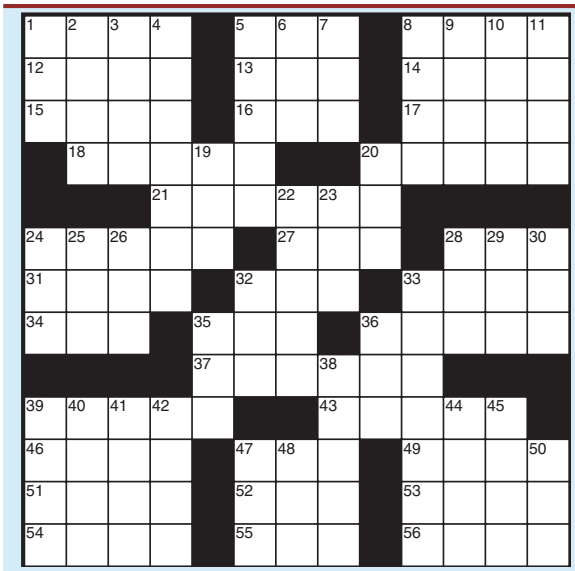

down »

1 VCR hookups
2 Whodunit suspect
3 Take apart
4 Semi engines
5 Distinct stage
6 Rower's tool
7 Hollow place
8 Wrist bone
9 Rigid circular ring
10 Cato's bear
11 Dressy shoe
19 Urban people-movers
20 Tire pressure meas.
22 Blocks
23 Rock concert souvenir
24 Flood residue
25 Yvette's date
26 FedEx rival
28 In good condition
29 Prior to
30 Md. neighbor
32 Calendar mo.
33 Necessitates
35 Family nickname
36 Luge surface
38 British Museum's — Marbles
39 Prez stand-in
40 Sailor's saint
41 Coasted
42 Resurfaces a road
44 Field's yield
45 Lay low
47 Timetable info
48 Bled, as a color
50 Baste

across »

1 Thump
5 Fireworks noise
8 Nope (hyph.)
12 —, vidi, vici
13 Yes, in Tokyo
14 Knowledge of a practical sort
15 Fries, maybe
16 Matisse piece
17 Rocket part
18 Landscaping shrubs
20 Of the Vatican
21 Puts in office
24 Sledgehammers
27 Wahine's welcome
28 Provided a meal
31 Foul-ball callers
32 Gridiron's — Montana
33 Limerick locale
34 Bad-mouth
35 Mattress problem
36 Computer-chip maker
37 Antenna user
39 Goose-down garments
43 Filter
46 Raines or Fitzgerald
47 Joule fraction
49 Pupil's place
51 Omani title
52 — chi ch'uan
53 Prospector's find
54 Herds of whales
55 Miller or Sheridan
56 Eject

previous answer

P	U	F	F	■	P	U	M	A	■	T	A	N
E	R	I	E	■	A	N	O	N	■	O	R	E
A	N	D	E	S	■	R	O	A	S	T	E	R
■	■	G	L	A	D	E	S	■	H	E	A	D
F	O	E	S	■	E	S	■	B	U	M	■	■
L	I	T	■	O	B	T	A	I	N	■	G	O
A	L	S	■	D	U	■	W	E	■	B	E	D
T	Y	■	M	I	G	N	O	N	■	L	E	E
■	■	V	I	E	■	O	K	■	S	A	S	S
B	E	A	K	■	S	T	E	A	K	S	■	■
E	G	G	E	D	O	N	■	T	I	T	A	N
T	A	U	■	A	M	O	K	■	F	E	T	A
A	D	E	■	M	E	W	S	■	F	R	E	E

HOROSCOPE

ARIES | March 21-April 20
Confer with colleagues about a special project. An elder may cause the end of an affair. Your secret treat is nobody's business.

TAURUS | April 21-May 21
Think about an alternative approach to nurturing. Use a remedy to control emotional responses. A visitor tells a personal story.

GEMINI | May 22-June 21
The answer to a question is obvious. Being too indulgent destabilizes your routine. It's time to listen to anyone who cares deeply.

CANCER | June 22-July 22
Tuesday's news finally hits home. Your limit of tolerance is reached. Notify your friends of emotional distress.

LEO | July 23-Aug. 23
Restless people will create mayhem. A phone conversation leads to a purchase. Jumping to conclusions will cause misunderstandings.

VIRGO | Aug. 24-Sept. 22
Asking tough questions will point up a friend's anxiety. Don't expect rewards for scolding anyone. Passing the buck causes problems.

LIBRA | Sep. 23-Oct. 23
A meaningful encounter has consequences. Delight overwhelms you when you get an invitation. No one can ignore odd musical tastes.

SCORPIO | Oct. 24- Nov. 22
A conversation is scary when emotions run wild. Don't look to your family for comedy. Protect elders from disturbing news.

SAGITTARIUS | Nov. 23- Dec. 21
Somebody goes out on a limb for you. Hugs and kisses are shared by pals. A bore makes you pause to think.

CAPRICORN | Dec. 22-Jan. 20
Resist the temptation to overindulge. Don't rest till a problem is tended to. Money changes will lead to long-term gain.

AQUARIUS | Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Something wonderful is coming. Others may be worried but you'll love being sassy. Surrender to the pleasure of being cared for.

PISCES | Feb. 19-Mar. 20
Nastiness can be prevented by showing respect. Avoid arguing about romance or children. Doing good will create harmony. AVATAR VENUS

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		5	3		8	1		
1		3				7	2	
				7	1			
				4	3	9		2
6								5
2		8	9	5				
			4	8				
	5	7				6		4
		9	1		7	8		

instructions »

The digits 1 through 9 will appear exactly once in each row, and each column, and each zone. (A zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine of these zones in the puzzle.) Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same 3x3 zone, or in the same row across the puzzle, or column down the puzzle.

solve time »

Under 13 minutes	Genius
13-17 minutes	Scholar
17-21	Smart
21-25	Pretty good
More than 25	Keep practising

previous answer

2	4	6	3	5	7	1	8	9
1	8	5	4	6	9	3	2	7
9	3	7	8	2	1	5	4	6
4	6	3	7	1	8	2	9	5
5	9	8	2	3	4	6	7	1
7	2	1	6	9	5	4	3	8
6	1	4	9	8	3	7	5	2
3	5	9	1	7	2	8	6	4
8	7	2	5	4	6	9	1	3

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Toronto weather

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Afternoon	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
60%				40%
Showers. 17°	Partly cloudy. 7°	Partly cloudy. 20°/11°	Partly cloudy. 22°/12°	Showers. 25°/13°

Temperature
Normals
High: 24°
Low: 12.1°

Records
High: 36.2°/1994
Low: 2.8°/1950

Sunrise: 5:36 a.m.
Sunset: 9:03 p.m.
Moonset: 5:01 a.m.
Moonrise: 9:33 p.m.

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celebritybuzz

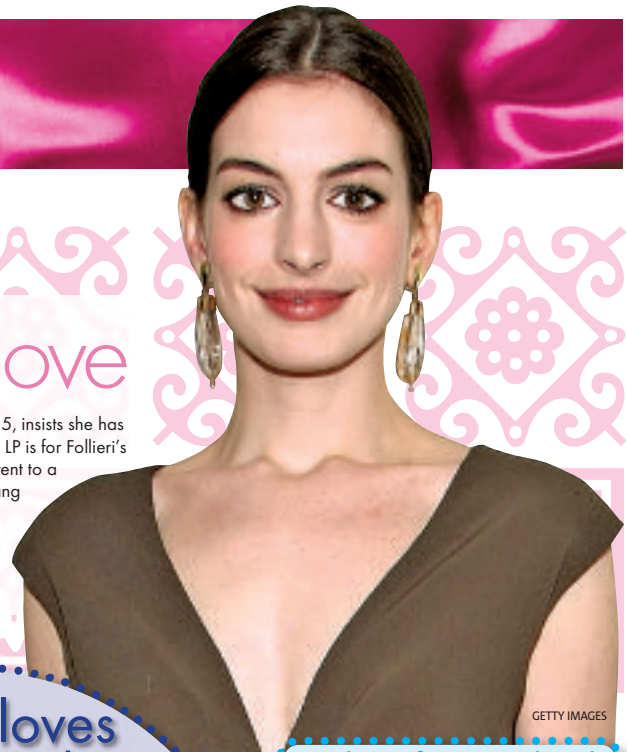
Hathaway singing for love

Actress Anne Hathaway really did give her boyfriend the gift of song – by recording an album of his favourite tracks just for him, imdb.com reports.

The Devil Wears Prada star is dating Italian businessman Raffaello Follieri and for his last birthday, she decided to give him an extra special present, booking a recording studio and laying down her own versions of all his favourite love songs. But Hathaway, 25, insists she has no aspirations to be a pop star – and the LP is for Follieri's ears only. She says, "On his birthday, I went to a recording studio and recorded a CD. I sang all the songs he loves.

"I've done things for him I never thought I could do for anyone."

Metro News Services



GETTY IMAGES

Blige's big heart

Mary J. Blige has a heart the size of her record sales, PageSix.com reports.

Last week, Blige was at the Diane von Furstenberg store in New York City when she overheard a girl having a problem at the register. A spy said, "The girl had a dress on hold that she loved, and the bill was $900. She thought it was only $500, and she couldn't afford it."

Blige told the saleswoman, "Go get the girl. I want to pay for the balance on the dress." The customer at first declined Blige's offer but relented after the singer said, "I know what it's like to want something and not be able to have it. I insist."

The customer wanted to send her a cheque for the balance, but Blige said, "Just enjoy it. I'm blessed, so let me do this."

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GETTY IMAGES

Larter loves her 'juicy' butt

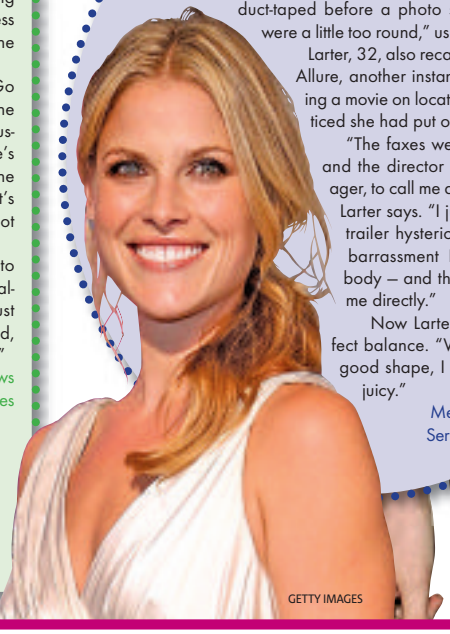
Actress Ali Larter reveals she once had to have her thighs duct-taped before a photo shoot because "they were a little too round," usmagazine.com reports.

Larter, 32, also recalled, in an interview with Allure, another instance when she was shooting a movie on location and the filmmakers noticed she had put on a few pounds.

"The faxes went out from the producers and the director to my agents, to my manager, to call me and ask me to lose weight," Larter says. "I just remember sitting in my trailer hysterically crying from the embarrassment I felt about myself, my body – and that no one could talk to me directly."

Now Larter has found the perfect balance. "When I'm in really good shape, I like my butt. It's juicy."

Metro News Services



GETTY IMAGES

Looking for sexy back

Actor Daniel Radcliffe is determined to tone up his body before appearing on Broadway's Equus in the nude – and he's not ashamed to admit it, imdb.com reports.

The Harry Potter star, 18, will disrobe in the Broadway adaptation of the Peter Shafer play later this year – just as he did onstage in London in 2007. And Radcliffe made sure to stop by the gift lounge before Sunday's 62nd annual Tony Awards, where he shamelessly picked up a Scorcher Butt Machine – a piece of exercise equipment with "a special emphasis on butt shaping."

He says of his new workout regime, "They don't have things like this in England."

Metro News Services

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OWN IT ON BLU-RAY OR DVD TODAY!

Elle forgiving of sex flop

Supermodel Elle MacPherson's encouraging bedroom behaviour is set to be revealed in a new tell-all book, imdb.com reports.

Former Calvin Klein model Bruce Hulse recalls his sexual encounters with MacPherson in his upcoming bed-hopping memoir Sex, Love And Fashion, scheduled for release in August. Hulse, now married with two children, reveals a steamy hook-up with the model at the peak of his career could have turned sour if the beauty hadn't been so understanding.

The 55-year-old recounts his lacklustre performance in the bedroom with the Aussie stunner, who he says "stripped down in front of me," before he lost his sex drive.

But according to Hulse, MacPherson wasn't upset by his inability to perform, choosing instead to propose a platonic relationship. Hulse recalls of MacPherson's response, "No worries, Bruce ... Let's just be friends, then," before claiming the pair later hooked up for one more steamy session under his parents' roof. The book also details his exploits with beauties Paulina Porizkova, Andie MacDowell and Tatjana Patitz.

Metro News Services

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GETTY IMAGES

It's a bag, not a baby

Eva Longoria Parker's stylist has laughed off fresh rumours the Desperate Housewives actress is pregnant – insisting if she was with child, it would show in the size of her breasts, imdb.com reports.

The latest pregnancy rumours were sparked on Monday after Longoria Parker was snapped shopping in New York City's Ferragamo boutique – with store employees appearing to point at her belly. But stylist Robert Verdi tells People.com, "I'm not her gynecologist, but I am her stylist. I see her naked. I see her boobs! That's the first place it would show, and it's not showing!"

To explain the shots: "Eva was holding a handbag that she bought in the crook of her arm. The manager came over and said to her, 'I love that bag.' But in the photos, it looks like the woman is gesturing to her midsection. It's too funny."

Metro News Services

PETA slams Jessica's meaty shirt

Jessica Simpson has been blasted by PETA after wearing a T-shirt bearing the slogan "Real Girls Eat Meat."

The singer – who famously questioned why tuna was nicknamed "chicken of the sea" on her reality TV show Newlyweds – has come under fire from the animal rights group, which has urged her to become a vegetarian to increase her brain power.

A spokesperson for PETA (People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals) said: "Jessica Simpson's meaty wardrobe malfunction makes us thankful that no one is looking to her for food advice. Chicken of the sea, anyone? The woman who thought that Buffalo 'wings' came from buffaloes would benefit from some good veggie brain food."

Metro News Services

GETTY IMAGES

Quiet life fine for Liv

Actress Liv Tyler is happy to shun the celebrity party lifestyle in favour of spending her nights in front of the TV, imdb.com reports.

The Armageddon beauty is enjoying the quiet life as a single mum to four-year-old son Milo after recently splitting from British rocker Royston Langdon after five years of marriage. She tells Britain's Cosmopolitan magazine, "I don't have any urge to run naked along a beach or get drunk at a party.

"I live quietly in New York, out of the public eye. I don't go out much. My favourite nights are staying in watching TV or going to a movie and eating popcorn."

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*Based on an MSRP of $13,995/$15,995/$21,895/$37,195/$29,745/$32,495/$21,695/$19,995/$36,995 on 2008 Rio5 EX MT/2008 Spectra LX MT/2008 Magentis LX MT/2008 Amanti Luxury/2008 Sedona LX/2008 Sorento LX/2008 Sportage LX MT/2008 Rondo LX/2009 Borrego LX V6. §0% purchase financing available on all 2008 Rio/Spectra/Spectra5/Rondo/Magentis/Amanti/Sportage/Sorento/Sedona for a term of up to 48/72/72/48/60/24/60/48/60 months O.A.C. (term varies by model). Other lease and finance options available. Dealers are free to set individual prices. Prices subject to change without notice. Certain restrictions may apply. ◆From June 3 to June 30 2008, receive $10 in Free Gas and enter for a chance to win $25,000 in Free Gas with the test drive of any Kia vehicle. No purchase necessary. Please visit Kia.ca for full contest details. †$5,000 on cash purchase on select 2008 models. ^Conditions apply to the $500 Grad Rebate program. +Some conditions may apply to the $750 Kia Mobility program. See dealer for details. ▼Kia's "Worry-Free Comprehensive" warranty covers most vehicle components against defects under normal use and maintenance conditions. Price, availability and specifications are subject to changes without notice. Some vehicles may include optional equipment and may not be exactly as shown. Information in this advertisement is believed to be accurate at the time of print. KIA is a trademark of Kia Motors Corporation.